IDEA requires that States and entities receiving Part B funds offer processes to resolve disagreements arising under the IDEA. These processes include written state complaints, mediation, and due process complaints (which include resolution meetings).

**Written State Complaints**
The number of *Written State Complaints Filed* have remained relatively steady over the 11-year period, with a slight increase to over 64% of *Complaint Reports Issued* in 2019-20. Most recent data show 64% of reports issued yielded findings of noncompliance. The majority (89%) of State complaint investigations continue to be timely, although the percentage dropped below 90% for the first time in 11 years.

**Mediations**
*Mediation Requests, Mediations Held* and *Mediation Agreements*, all decreased slightly in the recent reporting period. In 2019-20 the percentage of mediation agreements was nearly 62% nationally, with a rate of nearly 68% over the 11-year period.

**Due Process Complaints**
*Due Process Complaints Filed* continue to be on the rise with requests reaching their 11-year peak in 2019-20. Two States account for over 68% of complaints filed, with one State contributing a staggering 49.5% of the total due process complaint activity in the current reporting year. Similarly, two states account for nearly 79% of fully adjudicated due process complaints in 2019-20. Over the last 11 years, 88% of *Due Process Complaints Filed* were withdrawn, dismissed, or resolved without a hearing (62%), or pending at the end of the school year (26%). Only 12% of *Due Process Complaints Filed* resulted in a fully-adjudicated hearing. Despite an uptick in 2018-19, the number of fully-adjudicated hearings has remained relatively steady over the prior seven years.

**Resolution Sessions**
The number of *Resolution Meetings Held* continues an upward trend, with the past two reporting years marking the highest number of sessions held over an 11-year period. *Agreements in Resolution Period* continue to fall far short of the number of meetings held resulting in a national average resolution period agreement rate of 9% in 2019-20. Despite a significant increase in the number of *Resolution Meetings Held, Settlement Agreements in the Resolution Period* are on a downward trend. Over the 11-year period, resolution agreements show a 50% decline.

**Collaborative Dispute Resolution Approaches**
States continue to make investments in early conflict resolution activities not required by the IDEA, while simultaneously working to improve required dispute resolution systems. CADRE contends that well-designed, skillfully implemented, and collaborative approaches, such as IEP facilitation and mediation, can mitigate the use of more adversarial dispute resolution processes. Early dispute resolution options are generally more cost-effective and more expedient than other processes and may foster collaborative educator-family relationships.

*Percentages calculated using raw numbers from CADRE's National Longitudinal Database. See National Data Summary for more information.*