

1014-97-1174 **Joseph G. Rosenstein*** (joer@dimacs.rutgers.edu), CMSCE, 221 SERC, Busch Campus, Rutgers University, 118 Frelinghuysen Road, Piscataway, NJ 08854. *The rush to calculus and the rush to algebra*. Preliminary report.

We have speeded up the math curriculum so that an increasing number of students are taking calculus in high school. Some states are considering proposals that all students take algebra 1 in the 8th grade; an important implication and rationale for such proposals is that this would make it possible for all students to take calculus in high school. Among the "fundamental premises" of "Reaching for Common Ground in K-12 Mathematics Education" is that "by the time they leave high school, a majority of students should have studied calculus." Is there indeed evidence that more students taking calculus is a desirable goal? The presenter will report on the patterns of course-taking that emerge from his recent study of high school and college transcripts of Rutgers University students, and will reveal the percentage of students who continue their high school math acceleration in their first year at Rutgers. (Received September 27, 2005)