Summary of 2022-23 graduation and completion data release

# Graduation rates improved in 2022-23

Overall, graduation rates in 2022-23 improved in comparison to 2021-22.
About 65% of districts had graduation rates that were the same or better than the prior year (120 of the 185 local education agencies or BOCES).

## Extended graduation rates

Improvements were also evident in extended graduation rates, although not for all cohorts. This included:

* More students graduated in 5, 6, and 7 years in each of the most recent anticipated years of graduation.
* The most recent 5-year and 7-year extended graduation rates increased compared to the previous year.
* The AYG 2021 cohort continues to have lower extended year graduation rates than other graduating cohorts.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| AYG | 4-year | 5-year | 6-year | 7-year |
| 2022-2023 | 83.1% | available in 2023-24 | available in 2024-25 | available in 2025-26 |
| 2021-2022 | 82.3% | 86.1% | available in 2023-24 | available in 2024-25 |
| 2020-2021 | 81.7% | 85.7% | 86.7% | available in 2023-24 |
| 2019-2020 | 81.9% | 86.0% | 87.1% | 87.6% |

## Completion rates improved in 2022-23

1,028 students in the AYG 2023 cohort completed high school by receiving a certificate of high school completion or a High School Equivalency Diploma (HSED) instead of a regular high school diploma. Over the past 10 years, an additional 1.5% to 1.8% students complete high school in each AYG cohort. This has remained consistent even with the increase in graduation rates.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| AYG | 4-year | 5-year | 6-year | 7-year |
| 2022-2023 | 84.6% | available in 2023-24 | available in 2024-25 | available in 2025-26 |
| 2021-2022 | 84.1% | 88.3% | available in 2023-24 | available in 2024-25 |
| 2020-2021 | 83.2% | 87.7% | 88.9% | available in 2023-24 |
| 2019-2020 | 83.4% | 88.0% | 89.3% | 89.9% |

## 4-year graduation by subgroups

Improvements were seen in most student subgroups including growth at a faster rate than the state (0.8% increase for all students) in the 4-year graduation rate of AYG 2023 compared to the 4-year graduation rate of AYG 2022 in many subgroups. However, substantial gaps remain. This is true by gender, race/ethnicity, and instructional program service type (IPST) groups.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Subgroup Category** | **AYG 2022** | **AYG 2023** | **Rate Change from Prior Year** |
| Female | 85.7% | 86.0% | +0.3 |
| Male | 79.1% | 80.3% | +1.2 |
| American Indican or Alaskan Native | 65.4% | 68.0% | +2.6 |
| Asian | 93.0% | 92.6% | -0.4 |
| Black or African American | 77.4% | 78.6% | +1.2 |
| Hispanic or Latino | 75.1% | 76.1% | +1.1 |
| White | 87.3% | 88.0% | +0.7 |
| Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander | 61.1% | 70.9% | +9.8 |
| Two or More Races | 81.3% | 83.5% | +2.2 |
| Students with Disabilities | 67.9% | 69.3% | +1.4 |
| English Learner | 69.4% | 69.4% | 0.0 |
| Economically Disadvantaged | 71.9% | 73.3% | +1.4 |
| Migrant | 69.0% | 67.2% | -1.8 |
| Title 1 | 66.9% | 68.2% | +1.3 |
| Homeless | 55.4% | 58.0% | +2.6 |
| Gifted and Talented | 94.6% | 95.4% | +0.8 |
| Military Connected | 89.7% | 90.4% | +0.7 |
| Foster | 30.0% | 36.2% | +6.2 |

## 7-year completion by subgroups

When given more time to graduate or complete high school, many students are more successful. When comparing the 7-year graduation rate for AYG 2020 to the 4-year graduation rate for AYG 2020, many subgroups show more students graduating by their 7th year. In addition, with this additional time, some gaps narrow but not at a high enough rate to completely close the gaps.

## Additional analysis/data trends

CDE is committed to supporting all students across all districts within Colorado so they may successfully graduate or complete high school. When analyzing graduation and completion data, a few other notable trends appear in the data:

* The AYG 2021 cohort was the first cohort to show a lower 4-year graduation rate than the previous AYG cohort. This trend has continued into the 5-year and 6-year rates of AYG 2021. These students were in their 3rd year of high school during the 2019-20 school year when the COVID-19 pandemic began. It appears they were the most impacted by the interruptions to their high school career in the 2019-20 and 2020-21 school years.
* Some regions of our state show higher 4-year graduation rates than others. Districts in the North Central, Northwest, and Metro regions had higher 4-year graduation rates than the state the past three years. Districts in the Pikes Peak, Northeast, and not affiliated with a region show a substantial gap between their 4-year graduation rates and the state for the past three years.

 

\*See the [Field Services—Regions webpage](https://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeedserv/rgmapage) for a list of districts that comprise each region.

## Resources

* [CDE’s Office of Dropout Prevention and Student Re-engagement](https://www.cde.state.co.us/dropoutprevention/attendance) supports programs, identifies resources, and facilitates learning sessions focused on evidence-based practices to improve attendance, student engagement and connections to learning.
* [CDE’s Office of Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness](https://www.cde.state.co.us/postsecondary) supports programs and strategies that support student access to career-connected learning options.
	+ [Colorado’s Graduation Guidelines information.](https://www.cde.state.co.us/postsecondary/graduationguidelines)
* [CDE’s Data Services team](https://www.cde.state.co.us/cdereval/gradratecurrent) collects and publishes annual graduation/completion data.