

Florida’s High School Cohort

2023-24 Graduation Rate

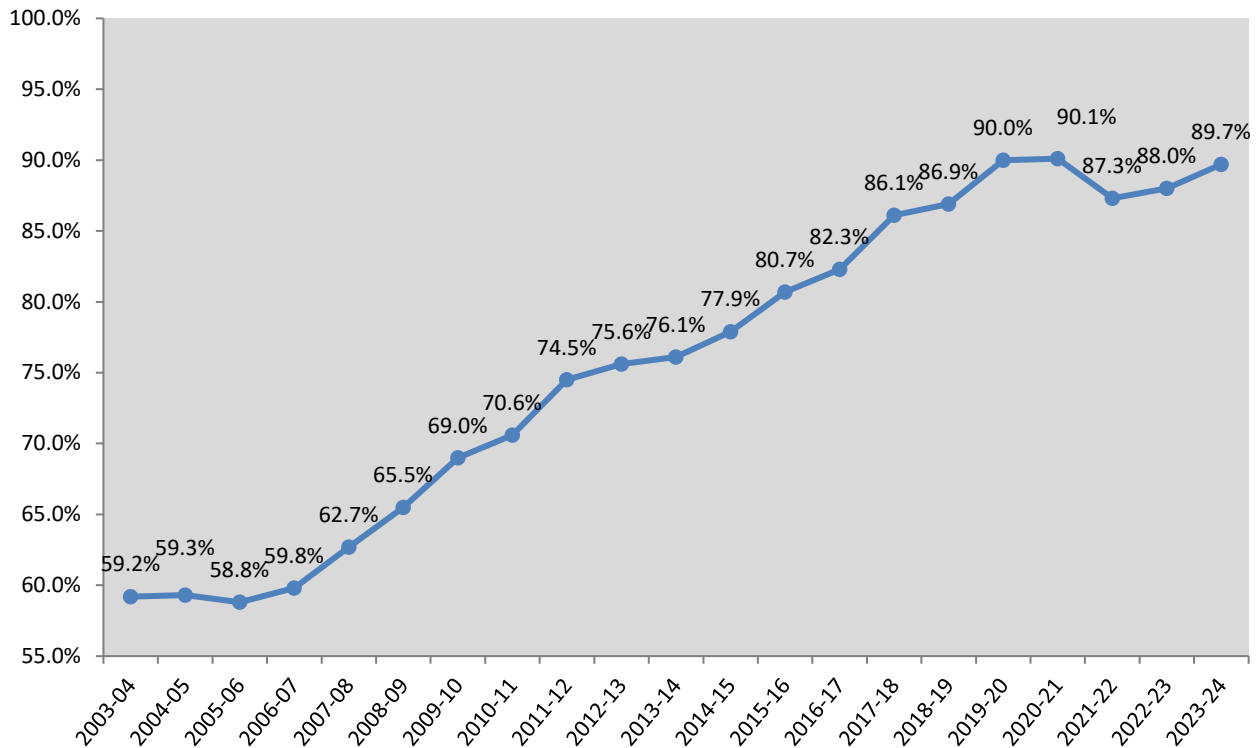
January 2025

Florida’s Graduation Rate

Florida’s high school graduation rate increased by 1.7 percentage points over the last year, which continues to exceed the pre-pandemic rate. The graduation rate has increased significantly over the past twenty years. The rate rose from 59.2 percent in 2003-04 to 89.7 percent in 2023-24, which is a 30.5 percentage-point increase. Figure 1 below shows the trend in graduation rates from 2003-04 through 2023-24. When comparing to the 2019-20 and 2020-21 graduation rates, it is important to note that pursuant to [Florida Department of Education Emergency Order No. 2020-EO-1](#) and [Florida Department of Education Emergency Order No. 2021-EO-02](#), students in the 2019-20 and 2020-21 graduating classes were exempt from statewide, standardized assessment requirements stipulated in s. 1003.4282, F.S. Further, the graduation rate has increased by 2.4 percentage points compared to 2021-22, the first year graduation requirements were reinstated following the pandemic.

Federal regulations require each state to calculate a four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate, which includes standard diplomas but excludes GEDs, both regular and adult. The U.S. Department of Education (USED) adopted this calculation method in an effort to develop uniform, accurate, and comparable graduation rates across all states. The USED required states to begin calculating the adjusted cohort graduation rate in 2010-11. This graduation rate is currently used in Florida’s school accountability system in the school grades calculation.

Figure 1: Florida’s Graduation Rates, 2003-04 through 2023-24



Florida’s graduation rate is a cohort graduation rate. A cohort is defined as a group of students on the same schedule to graduate. The graduation rate measures the percentage of students who graduate within four years of their first enrollment in ninth grade. Subsequent to their enrollment in ninth grade, students who transfer out or pass away are removed from the calculation. Entering transfer students are included in the graduation rate for the class with which they are scheduled to graduate, based on their grade level when they enroll in the public school system. District-level graduation rates are provided in Table 3. School-level graduation rates are available online at <http://fldoe.org/accountability/data-sys/edu-info-accountability-services/pk-12-public-school-data-pubs-reports/students.stml>.

In the calculation, stringent guidelines are prescribed for not only the definition of a graduate, but also for the definition of a transfer. Students who transfer to adult education programs or are placed in Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) facilities remain with their Florida public high schools’ cohorts.

How Does Florida’s Graduation Rate Compare with Other States’ Rates?

- The most recent graduation rates released on all states by USED are the 2021-22 federal graduation rates available at https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d23/tables/dt23_219.46.asp?current=yes. Florida’s federal graduation rate in 2021-22 was ranked #19 in the nation.¹
- Although the federal uniform graduation rate is calculated the same way by each state, states have different requirements for receiving a standard diploma, which means that the rates are not directly comparable from state to state.
- Florida’s standard diploma is a rigorous credential for which standards and testing requirements have periodically increased. Because states have different criteria for awarding a standard diploma, comparing rates among states is problematic.

Graduation Rates by Race/Ethnicity and Sex

Florida’s graduation rates vary by race/ethnicity and sex, but all nine subgroups have increased their graduation rates from 2022-23. The subgroups with the largest percentage point increases over 2022-23 include Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander Students (4.4 percentage points), American Indian or Alaskan Native Students (2.3 percentage points), and Hispanic/Latino students (2.2 percentage points).

Table 1: Graduation Rates by Race/Ethnicity and Sex, 2019-20 through 2023-24

Year	White	Black or African American	Hispanic/Latino	Asian	American Indian or Alaska Native	Two or More Races	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	Male	Female	Total
2019-20*	91.7%	86.6%	89.5%	98.0%	84.1%	90.5%	90.5%	87.1%	92.9%	90.0%
2020-21*	91.8%	87.1%	89.4%	97.5%	89.0%	89.9%	89.5%	87.4%	92.9%	90.1%
2021-22	90.6%	82.0%	85.9%	96.2%	86.4%	88.4%	86.8%	84.7%	89.9%	87.3%
2022-23	91.0%	83.2%	86.8%	96.9%	84.7%	88.4%	87.1%	85.9%	90.0%	88.0%
2023-24	92.4%	85.3%	89.0%	97.2%	87.0%	89.7%	91.5%	87.9%	91.6%	89.7%

¹ The graduation rate reported by the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) may vary slightly from the rate reported by the U.S. Department of Education’s National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) because the rate reported by FDOE accounts for students who attended schools that have closed during the 4-year tracking period, whereas the rate reported to NCES does not. In 2021-22, there wasn’t a difference between the FDOE and NCES rates.

Table 2: Graduation Rates by Sex within Race/Ethnicity, 2019-20 through 2023-24

Year	White Female	White Male	Black or African American Female	Black or African American Male	Hispanic/Latino Female	Hispanic/Latino Male	Asian Female	Asian Male
2019-20*	94.1%	89.4%	90.7%	82.5%	92.5%	86.6%	98.7%	97.3%
2020-21*	94.0%	89.7%	90.8%	83.4%	92.4%	86.4%	98.3%	96.8%
2021-22	92.6%	88.6%	86.0%	78.1%	88.5%	83.3%	97.2%	95.3%
2022-23	92.6%	89.3%	86.4%	80.0%	88.8%	84.8%	97.3%	96.5%
2023-24	94.0%	90.9%	88.0%	82.5%	91.0%	87.2%	98.0%	96.5%

Year	American Indian or Alaska Native Female	American Indian or Alaska Native Male	Two or More Races Female	Two or More Races Male	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander Female	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander Male
2019-20*	88.2%	80.0%	92.9%	87.9%	92.6%	88.4%
2020-21*	93.2%	85.5%	93.0%	86.8%	95.5%	84.8%
2021-22	90.0%	83.2%	90.4%	86.3%	87.8%	85.8%
2022-23	87.3%	82.3%	90.0%	86.7%	90.3%	83.7%
2023-24	88.4%	85.6%	90.8%	88.5%	95.1%	88.0%

Table 3: Graduation Rates by District, 2019-20 through 2023-24

District	2019-20*	2020-21*	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
FLORIDA	90.0%	90.1%	87.3%	88.0%	89.7%
01 Alachua	90.4%	86.6%	85.8%	84.2%	84.1%
02 Baker	84.5%	85.7%	81.5%	76.4%	83.1%
03 Bay	88.5%	90.2%	85.3%	88.7%	91.4%
04 Bradford	88.2%	85.0%	76.1%	82.5%	87.3%
05 Brevard	90.3%	90.6%	87.2%	89.7%	89.8%
06 Broward	89.4%	89.1%	87.2%	88.7%	89.0%
07 Calhoun	89.9%	93.1%	93.6%	93.8%	94.5%
08 Charlotte	90.4%	90.9%	87.9%	85.9%	87.0%
09 Citrus	87.1%	88.1%	86.5%	84.9%	91.6%
10 Clay	93.4%	92.7%	89.9%	90.9%	93.3%
11 Collier	92.2%	92.7%	91.5%	91.5%	91.3%
12 Columbia	95.4%	95.6%	89.6%	91.6%	88.9%
13 Miami-Dade	89.6%	90.1%	88.2%	90.3%	91.8%
14 DeSoto	84.6%	82.0%	75.1%	72.6%	77.5%
15 Dixie	89.8%	84.0%	82.7%	88.9%	92.9%
16 Duval	90.2%	89.6%	85.6%	87.2%	90.9%
17 Escambia	86.5%	87.0%	78.4%	80.5%	84.2%
18 Flagler	92.3%	91.2%	90.5%	87.8%	89.0%
19 Franklin	73.1%	74.4%	82.7%	75.4%	72.5%
20 Gadsden	77.1%	82.7%	75.9%	72.9%	73.9%
21 Gilchrist	90.1%	86.7%	87.6%	81.6%	85.5%

District		2019-20*	2020-21*	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
FLORIDA		90.0%	90.1%	87.3%	88.0%	89.7%
22	Glades	89.6%	78.5%	89.2%	86.0%	87.8%
23	Gulf	85.3%	86.5%	90.5%	80.1%	85.2%
24	Hamilton	87.0%	83.8%	75.4%	78.5%	82.8%
25	Hardee	91.4%	88.3%	84.5%	80.5%	73.6%
26	Hendry	90.4%	86.6%	75.7%	71.2%	80.6%
27	Hernando	91.7%	91.0%	89.0%	89.0%	88.1%
28	Highlands	83.3%	84.4%	82.6%	80.2%	83.6%
29	Hillsborough	88.8%	89.2%	87.9%	86.2%	88.0%
30	Holmes	93.4%	90.8%	85.0%	81.5%	84.9%
31	Indian River	93.4%	95.0%	94.6%	95.6%	96.2%
32	Jackson	91.0%	84.1%	82.6%	76.6%	86.9%
33	Jefferson	85.4%	81.8%	76.5%	66.7%	73.2%
34	Lafayette	97.7%	97.5%	97.6%	94.7%	100.0%
35	Lake	91.2%	90.6%	88.6%	89.8%	91.7%
36	Lee	88.5%	85.1%	82.5%	85.1%	85.8%
37	Leon	94.4%	94.0%	86.8%	86.1%	85.1%
38	Levy	89.6%	93.8%	92.8%	95.4%	94.8%
39	Liberty	87.2%	82.6%	76.7%	72.5%	82.1%
40	Madison	87.2%	88.2%	78.6%	83.2%	83.3%
41	Manatee	85.8%	85.1%	80.3%	82.3%	85.7%
42	Marion	87.1%	86.5%	83.5%	77.9%	80.3%
43	Martin	90.2%	94.1%	90.7%	90.3%	92.0%
44	Monroe	92.0%	91.5%	88.2%	89.0%	86.9%
45	Nassau	91.6%	93.4%	93.3%	91.0%	91.8%
46	Okaloosa	90.0%	92.2%	87.5%	87.9%	87.7%
47	Okeechobee	84.2%	85.1%	75.3%	71.7%	80.4%
48	Orange	90.4%	90.4%	87.0%	89.1%	89.3%
49	Osceola	90.7%	89.7%	85.2%	84.8%	88.8%
50	Palm Beach	90.2%	91.0%	89.0%	90.5%	92.1%
51	Pasco	89.9%	91.0%	90.2%	91.1%	95.5%
52	Pinellas	91.5%	92.0%	88.1%	87.7%	91.5%
53	Polk	86.5%	85.3%	78.3%	78.3%	82.2%
54	Putnam	90.1%	92.5%	88.5%	88.9%	91.2%
55	St. Johns	94.8%	95.0%	93.3%	94.0%	95.0%
56	St. Lucie	93.2%	94.5%	90.8%	91.5%	94.3%
57	Santa Rosa	90.3%	90.3%	89.9%	90.4%	90.9%
58	Sarasota	92.5%	91.0%	88.9%	90.3%	92.5%
59	Seminole	94.5%	95.5%	93.0%	91.7%	91.8%
60	Sumter	88.0%	91.0%	93.1%	94.3%	92.2%
61	Suwannee	91.3%	94.1%	91.5%	89.6%	91.4%
62	Taylor	92.8%	86.9%	87.4%	80.6%	79.5%
63	Union	79.6%	88.3%	77.8%	85.9%	82.2%
64	Volusia	87.7%	91.9%	88.9%	91.6%	93.7%
65	Wakulla	93.8%	95.5%	97.0%	97.6%	97.1%
66	Walton	91.5% ¹⁹	91.4%	96.7%	95.7%	97.4%
67	Washington	89.6%	87.9%	88.4%	82.6%	87.3%
68	Deaf/Blind	90.6%	96.8%	90.3%	90.6%	85.5%
71	FL Virtual	95.4%	95.9%	90.0%	92.6%	96.6%

District		2019-20*	2020-21*	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
FLORIDA		90.0%	90.1%	87.3%	88.0%	89.7%
72	FAU Lab School	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
73	FSU Lab School	96.4%	98.7%	99.4%	99.4%	98.8%
74	FAMU Lab School	100.0%	98.0%	94.7%	91.7%	97.0%
75	UF Lab School	97.3%	100.0%	97.4%	100.0%	100.0%

Notes:

Source: 2023-24 FDOE cohort graduation data as of 12/19/24.

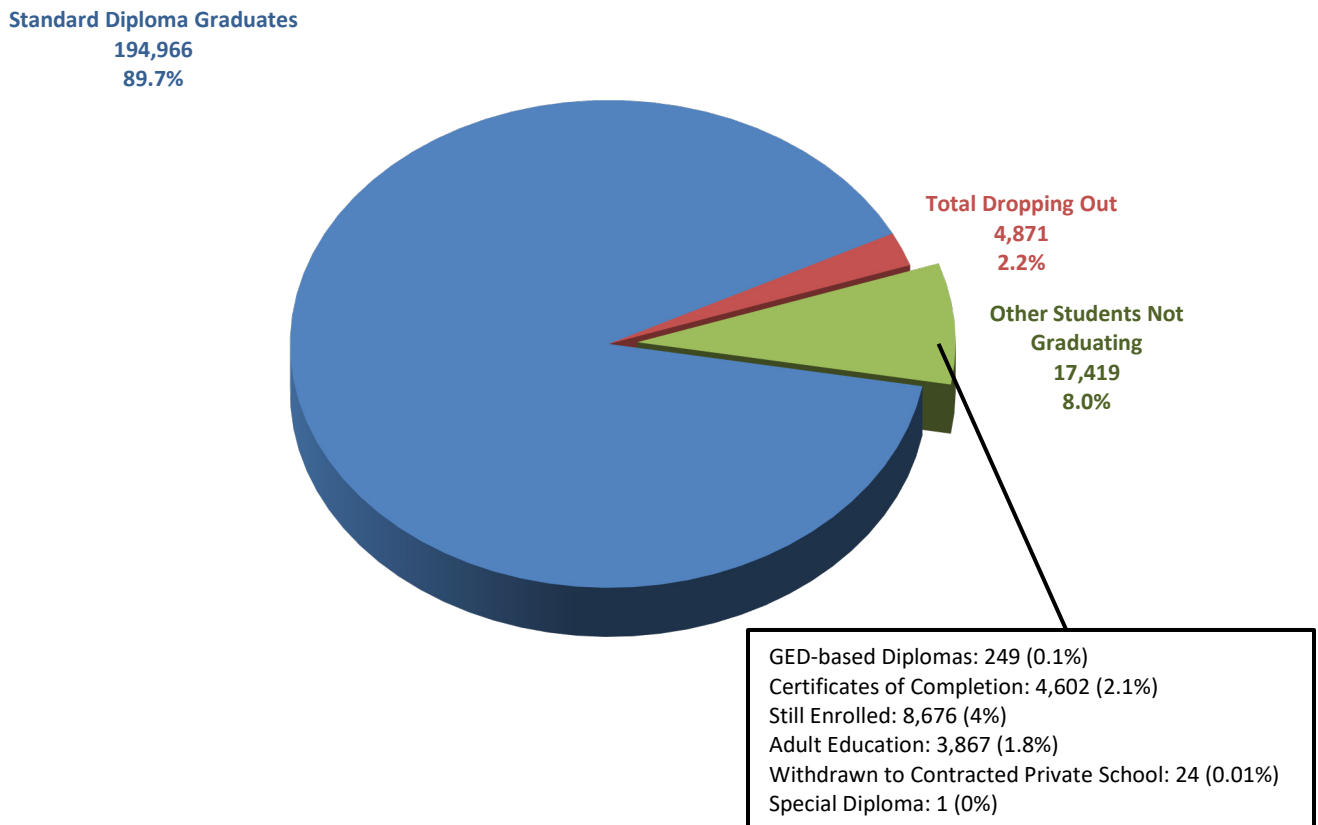
* When comparing to the 2019-20 and 2020-21 graduation rates, it is important to note that pursuant to [Florida Department of Education Emergency Order No. 2020-EO-1](#) and [Florida Department of Education Emergency Order No. 2021-EO-2](#), students in the 2019-20 and 2020-21 graduating class were exempt from statewide, standardized assessment requirements stipulated in s. 1003.4282, F.S.

Withdrawal Status of All Students in the Graduation Cohort

Florida’s graduation rate is 89.7 percent, but that does not mean that 10.3 percent of students in the cohort are dropouts. Students in a cohort can be classified as graduates, non-graduates, or dropouts. Non-graduates include students who have been retained and are still in school, attending adult education, received certificates of completion, or received GED-based diplomas. Florida’s 2017 Legislature amended section 1008.34, Florida Statutes, so that high school students who transfer to a private school with which the school district has a contractual relationship remain included in the 4-year adjusted graduation rate cohort of the last public high school they attended. These students are included in the percentage of non-graduates.

In Florida’s 2023-24 cohort, 2.2 percent of the students dropped out and 8 percent are classified as non-graduates who are still enrolled in school, are attending adult education, earned a certificate of completion, earned a GED-based diploma, or withdrew to a contracted private school. Figure 2 illustrates the proportions of students in the 2023-24 cohort who graduated, dropped out, or did not graduate.

Figure 2: 2023-24 Cohort Outcomes by Withdrawal Categories



Note: Non-graduates include students who are still enrolled in school, attending adult education, earned a certificate of completion, earned a GED-based diploma, or withdrew to a contracted private school.



Florida Department of Education
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For questions regarding Florida's High School Cohort Graduation Rate, contact:

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