

# 2024–25 Cohort Graduation Rate

## Background Information

The rules for calculating the cohort graduation rate meet the requirements of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The cohort graduation rate is defined as the percentage of students in the adjusted cohort who graduate within four years with a regular high school diploma. To generate the 2024–25 cohort, first-time grade-nine students were identified in 2021–22. The cohort was then adjusted by adding any students who transferred into the cohort after grade 9 and subtracting any students who transferred to a diploma granting institution, emigrated to another country, transferred to a prison or juvenile facility, or are deceased.

The disaggregated cohort graduation rates by school and by district are available online on the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction website. Also, available on the website is a supplementary document that explains the calculations used for the four-year and five-year cohort graduation rates.

TABLE 1. 2024–25 Four-year cohort graduation rate results by student group (2021–22 entering grade-nine students)

## State of North Carolina

| Subgroup                       | Denominator | Numerator | Percent |
|--------------------------------|-------------|-----------|---------|
| All Students                   | 127,068     | 111,412   | 87.7    |
| Male                           | 65,076      | 55,704    | 85.6    |
| Female                         | 61,992      | 55,708    | 89.9    |
| American Indian                | 1,265       | 1,070     | 84.6    |
| Asian                          | 4,669       | *         | >95     |
| Black                          | 31,121      | 26,675    | 85.7    |
| Hispanic                       | 28,221      | 23,355    | 82.8    |
| Two or More Races              | 6,295       | 5,411     | 86.0    |
| White                          | 55,322      | 50,293    | 90.9    |
| Economically Disadvantaged     | 55,096      | 45,887    | 83.3    |
| Not Economically Disadvantaged | 71,972      | 65,525    | 91.0    |
| English Learner                | 11,133      | 7,994     | 71.8    |
| Not English Learner            | 115,935     | 103,418   | 89.2    |
| Students with Disabilities     | 15,570      | 11,304    | 72.6    |
| Not Student with Disabilities  | 111,498     | 100,108   | 89.8    |
| Academically Gifted            | 19,265      | *         | >95     |

\* Data not displayed in accordance with data privacy rules

TABLE 2. 2023–24 Four-year cohort graduation rate results by student group (2020–21 entering grade-nine students)

*State of North Carolina*

| <b>Subgroup</b>                | <b>Denominator</b> | <b>Numerator</b> | <b>Percent</b> |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------|
| All Students                   | 122,510            | 106,527          | 87.0           |
| Male                           | 62,458             | 52,986           | 84.8           |
| Female                         | 60,052             | 53,541           | 89.2           |
| American Indian                | 1,213              | 1,000            | 82.4           |
| Asian                          | 4,384              | *                | >95            |
| Black                          | 29,997             | 25,336           | 84.5           |
| Hispanic                       | 25,360             | 21,134           | 83.3           |
| Two or More Races              | 6,021              | 5,030            | 83.5           |
| White                          | 55,366             | 49,703           | 89.8           |
| Economically Disadvantaged     | 53,446             | 44,081           | 82.5           |
| Not Economically Disadvantaged | 69,064             | 62,446           | 90.4           |
| English Learner                | 7,908              | 5,775            | 73.0           |
| Not English Learner            | 114,602            | 100,752          | 87.9           |
| Students with Disabilities     | 15,233             | 10,908           | 71.6           |
| Not Student with Disabilities  | 107,277            | 95,619           | 89.1           |
| Academically Gifted            | 18,974             | *                | >95            |

\* Data not displayed in accordance with data privacy rules

Table 3. 2024–25 Five-year cohort graduation rate results by student group (2020–21 entering grade-nine students)

*State of North Carolina*

| <b>Subgroup</b>                | <b>Denominator</b> | <b>Numerator</b> | <b>Percent</b> |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------|
| All Students                   | 122,279            | 108,106          | 88.4           |
| Male                           | 62,324             | 53,912           | 86.5           |
| Female                         | 59,955             | 54,194           | 90.4           |
| American Indian                | 1,210              | 1,012            | 83.6           |
| Asian                          | 4,379              | *                | >95            |
| Black                          | 29,953             | 25,844           | 86.3           |
| Hispanic                       | 25,345             | 21,598           | 85.2           |
| Two or More Races              | 6,005              | 5,119            | 85.2           |
| White                          | 55,217             | 50,173           | 90.9           |
| Economically Disadvantaged     | 52,836             | 44,972           | 85.1           |
| Not Economically Disadvantaged | 69,443             | 63,134           | 90.9           |
| English Learner                | 7,936              | 6,055            | 76.3           |
| Not English Learner            | 114,343            | 102,051          | 89.2           |
| Students with Disabilities     | 15,192             | 11,267           | 74.2           |
| Not Students with Disabilities | 107,087            | 96,839           | 90.4           |
| Academically Gifted            | 18,929             | *                | >95            |

\* Data not displayed in accordance with data privacy rules

Student group information is based on data collected when a student was last enrolled in a North Carolina school during the cohort.

2024–25 school year data as of August 26, 2025.