

Florida's High School Cohort 2022-23 Graduation Rate

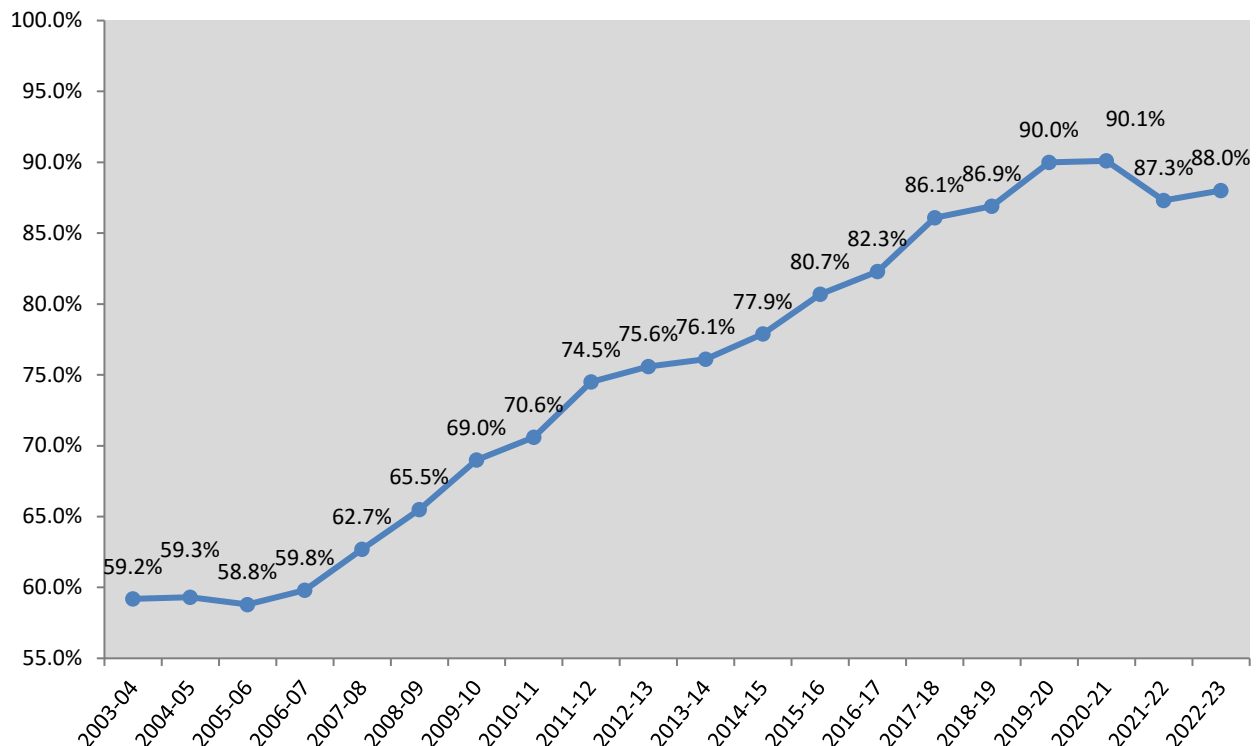
January 2024

Florida's Graduation Rate

Florida's high school graduation rate increased by 0.7 percentage points over the last year, which continues to exceed the pre-pandemic rate. The graduation rate has increased significantly over the past nineteen years. The rate rose from 59.2 percent in 2003-04 to 88.0 percent in 2022-23, which is a 28.8 percentage-point increase. Figure 1 below shows the trend in graduation rates from 2003-04 through 2022-23. 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 1.1 percentage points compared to 2018-19.

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 2022-23



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 jails/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 2019-20 federal graduation rates available at https://nces.ed.gov/ccd/tables/ACGR_RE_and_characteristics_2019-20.asp. Florida's federal graduation rate in 2019-20 was ranked #9 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 seven of the nine subgroups have increased their graduation rates from 2021-22. The subgroups with the largest percentage point increases over 2021-22 include Black or African American students (1.2 percentage points), Male students (1.2 percentage points), and Hispanic/Latino students (0.9 percentage points).

Table 1: Graduation Rates by Race/Ethnicity and Sex, 2018-19 through 2022-23

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
2018-19	90.2%	81.5%	85.9%	95.6%	77.5%	88.2%	86.7%	83.9%	90.0%	86.9%
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%

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 2019-20, this represented a 0.2% difference (90.0% reported by FDOE vs. 90.2% reported by NCES).

Table 2: Graduation Rates by Sex within Race/Ethnicity, 2018-19 through 2022-23

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
2018-19	92.6%	87.9%	86.1%	77.0%	88.9%	82.9%	96.9%	94.4%
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%

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
2018-19	83.5%	72.5%	90.7%	85.4%	91.0%	82.6%
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%

Table 3: Graduation Rates by District, 2018-19 through 2022-23

District		2018-19	2019-20*	2020-21*	2021-22	2022-23
FLORIDA		86.9%	90.0%	90.1%	87.3%	88.0%
01	Alachua	88.5%	90.4%	86.6%	85.8%	84.2%
02	Baker	78.8%	84.5%	85.7%	81.5%	76.4%
03	Bay	82.5%	88.5%	90.2%	85.3%	88.7%
04	Bradford	87.7%	88.2%	85.0%	76.1%	82.5%
05	Brevard	88.3%	90.3%	90.6%	87.2%	89.7%
06	Broward	86.2%	89.4%	89.1%	87.2%	88.7%
07	Calhoun	87.9%	89.9%	93.1%	93.6%	93.8%
08	Charlotte	86.4%	90.4%	90.9%	87.9%	85.9%
09	Citrus	86.0%	87.1%	88.1%	86.5%	84.9%
10	Clay	91.9%	93.4%	92.7%	89.9%	90.9%
11	Collier	91.9%	92.2%	92.7%	91.5%	91.5%
12	Columbia	92.4%	95.4%	95.6%	89.6%	91.6%
13	Miami-Dade	85.6%	89.6%	90.1%	88.2%	90.3%
14	DeSoto	71.3%	84.6%	82.0%	75.1%	72.6%
15	Dixie	90.6%	89.8%	84.0%	82.7%	88.9%
16	Duval	86.5%	90.2%	89.6%	85.6%	87.2%
17	Escambia	84.8%	86.5%	87.0%	78.4%	80.5%
18	Flagler	88.7%	92.3%	91.2%	90.5%	87.8%
19	Franklin	70.6%	73.1%	74.4%	82.7%	75.4%
20	Gadsden	60.4%	77.1%	82.7%	75.9%	72.9%
21	Gilchrist	89.4%	90.1%	86.7%	87.6%	81.6%

District		2018-19	2019-20*	2020-21*	2021-22	2022-23
FLORIDA		86.9%	90.0%	90.1%	87.3%	88.0%
22	Glades	91.4%	89.6%	78.5%	89.2%	86.0%
23	Gulf	83.6%	85.3%	86.5%	90.5%	80.1%
24	Hamilton	73.1%	87.0%	83.8%	75.4%	78.5%
25	Hardee	81.2%	91.4%	88.3%	84.5%	80.5%
26	Hendry	83.7%	90.4%	86.6%	75.7%	71.2%
27	Hernando	88.4%	91.7%	91.0%	89.0%	89.0%
28	Highlands	81.2%	83.3%	84.4%	82.6%	80.2%
29	Hillsborough	86.2%	88.8%	89.2%	87.9%	86.2%
30	Holmes	85.5%	93.4%	90.8%	85.0%	81.5%
31	Indian River	88.5%	93.4%	95.0%	94.6%	95.6%
32	Jackson	84.7%	91.0%	84.1%	82.6%	76.6%
33	Jefferson	62.7%	85.4%	81.8%	76.5%	66.7%
34	Lafayette	98.8%	97.7%	97.5%	97.6%	94.7%
35	Lake	86.8%	91.2%	90.6%	88.6%	89.8%
36	Lee	83.7%	88.5%	85.1%	82.5%	85.1%
37	Leon	92.4%	94.4%	94.0%	86.8%	86.1%
38	Levy	88.1%	89.6%	93.8%	92.8%	95.4%
39	Liberty	84.2%	87.2%	82.6%	76.7%	72.5%
40	Madison	82.5%	87.2%	88.2%	78.6%	83.2%
41	Manatee	83.2%	85.8%	85.1%	80.3%	82.3%
42	Marion	83.8%	87.1%	86.5%	83.5%	77.9%
43	Martin	87.4%	90.2%	94.1%	90.7%	90.3%
44	Monroe	86.0%	92.0%	91.5%	88.2%	89.0%
45	Nassau	92.3%	91.6%	93.4%	93.3%	91.0%
46	Okaloosa	87.9%	90.0%	92.2%	87.5%	87.9%
47	Okeechobee	75.8%	84.2%	85.1%	75.3%	71.7%
48	Orange	88.4%	90.4%	90.4%	87.0%	89.1%
49	Osceola	90.0%	90.7%	89.7%	85.2%	84.8%
50	Palm Beach	87.1%	90.2%	91.0%	89.0%	90.5%
51	Pasco	88.3%	89.9%	91.0%	90.2%	91.1%
52	Pinellas	88.4%	91.5%	92.0%	88.1%	87.7%
53	Polk	81.2%	86.5%	85.3%	78.3%	78.3%
54	Putnam	86.3%	90.1%	92.5%	88.5%	88.9%
55	St. Johns	94.3%	94.8%	95.0%	93.3%	94.0%
56	St. Lucie	90.4%	93.2%	94.5%	90.8%	91.5%
57	Santa Rosa	88.9%	90.3%	90.3%	89.9%	90.4%
58	Sarasota	89.4%	92.5%	91.0%	88.9%	90.3%
59	Seminole	92.8%	94.5%	95.5%	93.0%	91.7%
60	Sumter	87.2%	88.0%	91.0%	93.1%	94.3%
61	Suwannee	93.7%	91.3%	94.1%	91.5%	89.6%
62	Taylor	83.9%	92.8%	86.9%	87.4%	80.6%
63	Union	84.4%	79.6%	88.3%	77.8%	85.9%
64	Volusia	84.5%	87.7%	91.9%	88.9%	91.6%
65	Wakulla	91.6%	93.8%	95.5%	97.0%	97.6%
66	Walton	88.9%	91.5%	91.4%	96.7%	95.7%
67	Washington	80.5%	89.6%	87.9%	88.4%	82.6%
68	Deaf/Blind	84.1%	90.6%	96.8%	90.3%	90.6%
71	FL Virtual	87.7%	95.4%	95.9%	90.0%	92.6%

District		2018-19	2019-20*	2020-21*	2021-22	2022-23
FLORIDA		86.9%	90.0%	90.1%	87.3%	88.0%
72	FAU Lab School	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
73	FSU Lab School	99.3%	96.4%	98.7%	99.4%	99.4%
74	FAMU Lab School	89.7%	100.0%	98.0%	94.7%	91.7%
75	UF Lab School	98.1%	97.3%	100.0%	97.4%	100.0%

Notes:

Source: 2022-23 FDOE cohort graduation data as of 12/20/23.

* 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.

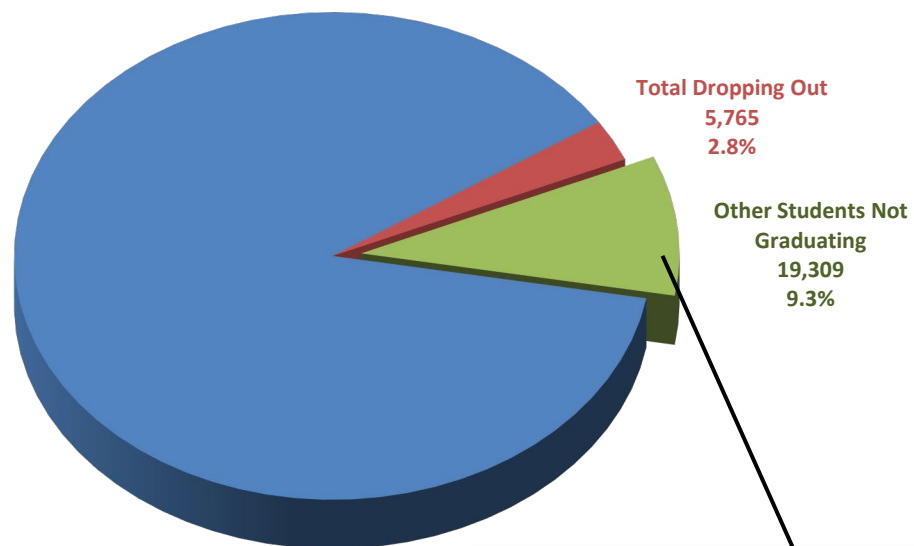
Withdrawal Status of All Students in the Graduation Cohort

Florida's graduation rate is 88.0 percent, but that does not mean that 12.0 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 2022-23 cohort, 2.8 percent of the students dropped out and 9.3 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 2022-23 cohort who graduated, dropped out, or did not graduate.

Figure 2: 2022-23 Cohort Outcomes by Withdrawal Categories

Standard Diploma Graduates
183,416
88.0%



GED-based Diplomas: 295 (0.1%)
Certificates of Completion: 5,818 (2.8%)
Still Enrolled: 8,552 (4.1%)
Adult Education: 4,513 (2.2%)
Withdrawn to Contracted Private School: 131 (0.1%)

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
Manny Diaz, Jr., Commissioner

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

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