

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

Subgroup	Denominator	Numerator	Percent
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

Subgroup	Denominator	Numerator	Percent
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.