

2018–19 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 2018–19 cohort, first-time 9th graders were identified in 2015–16. The cohort was then adjusted by adding any students who transferred into the cohort after 9th grade and subtracting any students who transferred out, emigrated to another county, transferred to a prison or juvenile facility or are deceased.

The disaggregated cohort graduation rate results are presented online on the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction website. The results are available by individual school and school district. There are also links to supplementary documents that explain the calculations used for the four-year and five-year cohort graduation rates and a longitudinal cohort graduation rate spreadsheet is available for the 2005–06 to 2018–19 school years.

Table 1. 2019 4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate Results by Student Group
 (2015–16 Entering Ninth Graders)

State of North Carolina			
Subgroup	Denominator	Numerator	Percent
All Students	121,976	105,528	86.5
Male	62,464	52,169	83.5
Female	59,512	53,359	89.7
American Indian	1,524	1,237	81.2
Asian	3,492	3,300	94.5
Black	31,528	26,371	83.6
Hispanic	19,213	15,577	81.1
Two or More Races	4,779	4,009	83.9
White	61,313	54,929	89.6
Economically Disadvantaged	47,446	38,791	81.8
English Learner	6,826	4,872	71.4
Students with Disabilities	15,370	10,725	69.8
Academically Gifted	19,736	-	>95

Table 2. 2018 4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate Results by Student Group
(2014–15 Entering Ninth Graders)

State of North Carolina

Subgroup	Denominator	Numerator	Percent
All Students	120,079	103,658	86.3
Male	61,374	51,075	83.2
Female	58,705	52,583	89.6
American Indian	1,641	1,385	84.4
Asian	3,404	3,178	93.4
Black	31,747	26,427	83.2
Hispanic	17,504	13,994	79.9
Two or More Races	4,356	3,664	84.1
White	61,271	54,875	89.6
Economically Disadvantaged	43,880	35,257	80.3
English Learner	6,835	4,673	68.4
Students with Disabilities	14,818	10,234	69.1
Academically Gifted	19,739	-	>95

Table 3. 2019 5-Year Cohort Graduation Rate Results by Student Group
(2014–15 Entering Ninth Graders)

State of North Carolina

Subgroup	Denominator	Numerator	Percent
All Students	120,079	105,540	87.9
Male	61,374	52,312	85.2
Female	58,705	53,228	90.7
American Indian	1,641	1,409	85.9
Asian	3,404	3,235	95.0
Black	31,747	27,151	85.5
Hispanic	17,504	14,395	82.2
Two or More Races	4,356	3,752	86.1
White	61,271	55,459	90.5
Economically Disadvantaged	43,880	36,346	82.8
English Learner	6,835	4,935	72.2
Students with Disabilities	14,818	10,745	72.5
Academically Gifted	19,739	-	>95

Student Group information is based on data collected when a student was last enrolled in a North Carolina school during the cohort. The 2018–19 data is as of August 30, 2019.