

Cohort Graduation Rate

Metric Overview

Metric Definition: Four-Year Cohort Graduation Rate is the percentage of the school's ninth-graders who graduate within four years.

Key Business Rules and Exclusions:

- Students who enter CPS after 9th grade are added into an existing 9th grade cohort for the overall district rate only.
- Students who were removed from the district with a non-dropout leave code other than graduation are excluded from the denominator.
- Unverified out-of-district transfers that occur after May 1st of the last year of the cohort period are excluded from the denominator (previous calculations used February 1st cutoff).

Metric Calculation

Numerator: Students with a leave code of 55 or met graduation requirements but remain enrolled for transition services as part of their IEP.

Denominator: First-time 9th graders who were present at least once during 9th grade.

Example Calculation

Students
Who...

$$\frac{\text{Graduated} + \text{Transitioned}}{\text{Graduated} + \text{Transitioned} + \text{Remained enrolled} + \text{Dropped out or left}} = \frac{495 + 5}{495 + 5 + 55 + 150} = 70.9\%$$

SCHOOL A Graduation Rate

School A had 730 students who were first-time ninth graders who were marked present at least one day during the school year.

730 first-time ninth-graders - 25 verified transfers*

At the end of four years:

500 students included in the numerator

495

Students graduated with a diploma and met graduation requirements

+

5

Students with IEPs completed their graduation requirements and remained enrolled for transition services

*705 students included in the denominator

495

+

5

+

55

Students remained enrolled after four years to continue their graduation requirements

+

150

Students dropped out or left the district without evidence of continued education elsewhere

Cohort Graduation Rate Use Case and Reports

Cohort Graduation Rate is a lagging indicator which, when coupled with other data sets, provides insights into the quality of the school's instructional core. Schools should evaluate Cohort Graduation Rate alongside other qualitative and quantitative data to gain insight into the effectiveness of their engagement and connectedness strategies across various student subgroups. Schools can address the root cause of a low graduation rate through practices included in their Continuous Improvement Work Plan (CIWP). The District will support schools by prioritizing corresponding supports through their strategic plans.

CIDT Cohort Graduation Rate Report: All CIDT reports can be found on the CPS Dashboard on the "PowerBI Reports" page in the [Reports dropdown](#). This report can be used for trend analysis and data investigation.

Related Reports: [CPS public data page](#): Downloadable reports of historic cohort graduation and dropout rates.

Questions? Connect with your Network Data Strategist to learn more.