



**WYOMING**  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



**Jillian Balow**

Superintendent of Public Instruction

**Cheyenne Office**

Hathaway Building, 2nd Floor  
2300 Capitol Avenue  
Cheyenne WY 82002-0050  
Phone: (307) 777-7690  
Fax: (307) 777-6234



**Riverton Office**

320 West Main  
Riverton, WY 82501  
Phone: (307) 857-9250  
Fax: (307) 857-9256



**On the Web**

edu.wyoming.gov  
www.wyomingmeasuresup.com

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 04, 2015

Visit [edu.wyoming.gov/press](http://edu.wyoming.gov/press) for contact details

# AVERAGE WYOMING FOUR YEAR GRADUATION RATE AT 78.6%

## Most Wyoming School Districts above 79%

CHEYENNE – Graduation rates in Wyoming increased slightly for the 2013-14 school year, according to data compiled and released by the Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) today.

“I am pleased with the new data, but we're not satisfied or complacent. Staff at the WDE are motivated to work with districts more closely to further improve these numbers,” said WDE Superintendent Jillian Balow. “We know that an important factor in the effort to improve graduation rates is retention—keeping kids in school. Therefore, a first-year goal of my administration is to establish a support framework that helps educators identify students at risk of dropping out and intervene much earlier.”

For full graduation rate statistics, visit <http://edu.wyoming.gov/data/graduation-rates>.

Wyoming's graduation rate of 78.6 percent in 2013-14 is up from the 2012-13 rate of 77.5 percent. Six schools met the 100% 4-year on time graduation rate. They are:

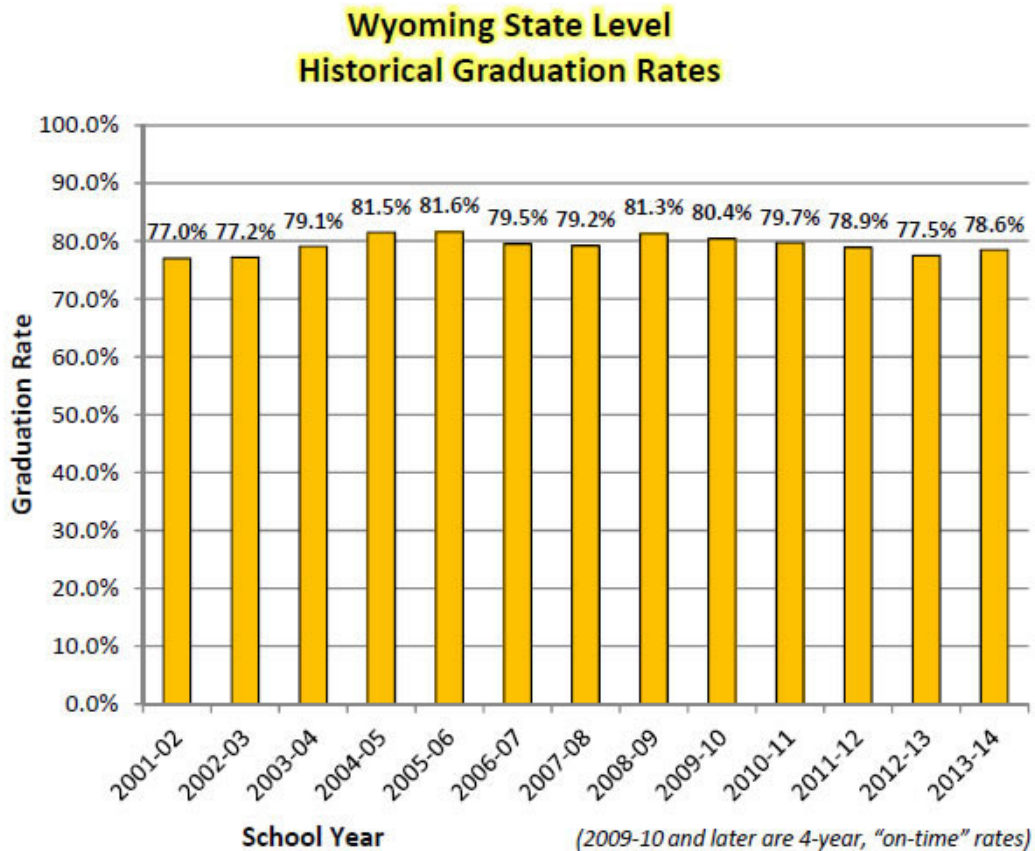
1. Albany#1 - Rock River High School;
2. Big Horn #1 - Burlington High School;
3. Carbon #2 - Encampment K-12 School;
4. Goshen #1 - Southeast High School;
5. Johnson #1 - Kaycee School;
6. Lincoln #2 - Cokeville High School.

## Wyoming school districts with highest 2013-14 graduation rates

District	Rate	Improvement
Teton #1	95.74%	up 6.71%
Uinta #4	93.65%	up 16.73%
Weston #1	93.33%	up 9.75%
Lincoln #1	93.02%	up 13.53%
Weston #7	92.86%	up 3.39%

Thirty of Wyoming's 48 districts are above the state average four year graduation rate, with 29 districts above 80%. Eleven districts posted rates of 90 percent or above.

In addition to the four year adjusted cohort graduation rate, the WDE also tracks five and six year rates. The five-year numbers released today show a roughly 2 percent graduation rate increase among many subgroups. Students on Individual Education Plans also saw a 7 percent rise in graduation rates when looking at a six-year graduation rate versus a four-year rate.



Groups of students who are scheduled to graduate in the same four-year period are called "cohorts." Students are counted in the graduation rate if they earn a diploma during the summer session immediately after their fourth year in high school. To remove a student from a cohort, a school or district must confirm, in writing, that the student has transferred, moved to another country, or is deceased. For students who transfer from the school, the written confirmation must be official, and must document that the student has enrolled in another school or in an educational program that culminates in a regular high school diploma.

A cohort must have 30 students to be statistically valid in graduation rate calculations. If a cohort does not have 30 students, cohorts from the previous one or two years combine to create a cohort of 30 students.

“Unfortunately, we have no means of collecting data that would clarify what happens to the students that do not graduate with their four-year cohort, aside from those who graduate in five or six years,” Vince Meyer, Senior Statistician at the WDE said.

“Some immediately join the workforce, many will graduate within five or six years, others will complete their high school equivalency on their own, and a few may even score high enough on their ACT to go directly to college without a high-school diploma. We simply don’t have the data to tell us specifically what happened to all them, but they are not counted in the four-year graduation rate,” Meyer continued.

Also calculated by the methodology are those that graduate in five and six years. The rate for those that graduated in 2014 in five years or less of high school is 80.31%. The rate for those that graduated in the same year in six years or less is 81.95%.

For more information about the 2013-2014 graduation rate please contact Vince Meyer at [vince.meyer@wyo.gov](mailto:vince.meyer@wyo.gov).