



Opportunity Through Education

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## CLASS OF 2021 GRADUATION RATE (2020-21 COHORT)

Using methodology established by the United States Department of Education, the Wyoming Department of Education’s Federal Four-Year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate, or “on-time” graduation rate, is 82.4% for the class of 2021.

### GRADUATION RATES: WYOMING’S CLASS OF 2010 AND BEYOND

Calculation and publication of cohort-based graduation rates is required in order to comply with the federal Every Student Succeeds Act. The formula and methodology are similar to the standards set by the National Governors Association in their “Graduation Counts Compact”. This methodology requires all states to account for students using the same criteria and use the same graduation rate calculation to ensure comparability across states.

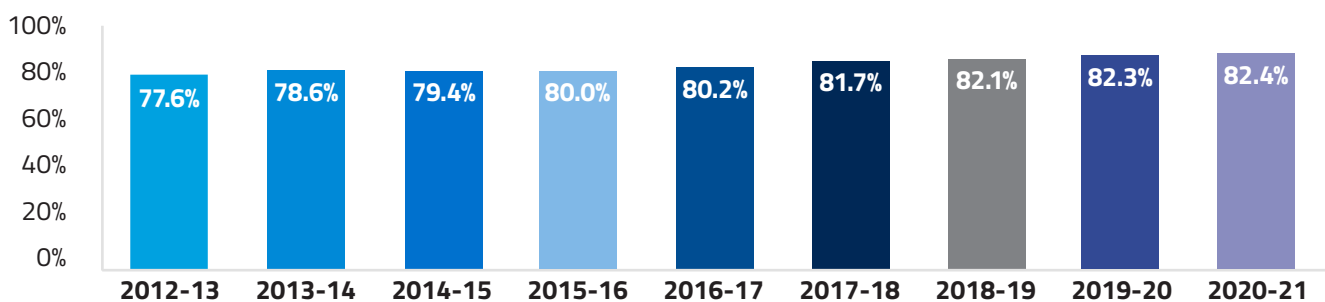
The Wyoming Department of Education applauds every effort to give students options and help them succeed. Many successful students take more than four years to graduate. The WDE calculates five-year and six-year graduation rates to provide a more complete picture of student outcomes.

### EXTENDED YEAR GRADUATION RATES

5 year rates are published the year after the “on-time” 4 year rate and include all students in the cohort graduating in 5 or fewer years. Likewise, 6 year rates are published two years after the 4 year rate and include all students in the cohort graduating in 6 or fewer years.

COHORT (“ON TIME” CLASS OF)	“ON TIME” FOUR (OR LESS) YEAR GRAD RATE (% CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR)	FIVE (OR LESS) YEAR GRAD RATE (% CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR)	SIX (OR LESS) YEAR GRAD RATE (% CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR)
2012-13	77.6%	80.3%	81.0%
2013-14	78.6% (+1.0%)	80.8% (+0.5%)	81.6% (+0.5%)
2014-15	79.4% (+0.8%)	81.6% (+0.8%)	82.3% (+0.7%)
2015-16	80.0% (+0.6%)	82.1% (+0.5%)	82.6% (+0.3%)
2016-17	80.2% (+0.2%)	82.0% (+0.9%)	82.5% (-0.1%)
2017-18	81.7% (+1.5%)	83.3% (+1.3%)	83.9% (+1.4%)
2018-19	82.1% (+0.4%)	84.1% (+0.8%)	84.5% (+0.6%)
2019-20	82.3% (+0.2%)	83.7% (0.4%)	(2021-22)
2020-21	82.4% (+0.1%)	(2021-22)	(2022-23)

### WYOMING GRADUATION RATE Percent of high school students graduating “on time”



Students are counted in the four-year (“on-time”) high school graduation rate if they earn a diploma by September 15 following their cohort’s fourth year.

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# FEDERAL FOUR-YEAR ADJUSTED COHORT GRADUATION RATE

## STUDENT TRACKING AND GRADUATION RATE CALCULATION PROCESS

### What is a Graduation Cohort?

A graduation cohort is a group of students who begin as first-time 9th graders in a particular school year, which is then adjusted over time.

### How is a cohort "adjusted"?

A cohort is adjusted by adding any students transferring into a cohort in a school and by subtracting any students who transfer out or are otherwise allowed to be removed from the cohort (see details below).

### When a student transfers into a school, to which cohort is the student assigned?

A student who transfers into a school is required to be assigned to the cohort in which the student started 9th grade for the first time, even where this event occurred in a different district or school.

#### Students entering a Graduation Cohort

1. Promoted from 8th to 9th grade
2. Transferring into the Wyoming public school system in any high school grade (9 to 12)

#### Students exiting a Graduation Cohort:

1. On-Time Graduates (diploma recipients) including summer school students graduating by September 15th following the cohort's fourth year
2. Non-On-Time Graduates
3. Removed from Cohort

#### Four-Year (On-Time) Graduation Rate Calculation

On-Time Graduates: 17 Students  
Non-On-Time Graduates: 3 Students  
Expected On-Time Graduates: 20 Students

On-Time Graduation Rate =

$$\frac{\text{On-Time Graduates}}{\text{Expected On-Time Graduates}}$$

**ON-TIME GRADUATION RATE =**

$$\frac{17}{20} = \mathbf{85\%}$$



#### Removed from Cohort

Students are not counted in a school's graduation rate when exiting before the end of their four years of expected enrollment in high school grades (9 to 12) for any of the following reasons, but only when districts obtain documentation required by federal regulation:

1. Transferred to a home school curriculum or another diploma granting high school
2. Moved out of the country
3. Died

#### Non-On-Time Graduates

Students counted as not graduating in four years may have:

1. Dropped out, been rumored to transfer (no written confirmation), or left for reasons unknown by the school
2. Left school to participate in a non-high school diploma granting educational or trade program (including GED)
3. Attended high school grades (9-12) for 4 full years without graduating (may still be seeking a diploma in 5 or 6 years)

#### What about Five-Year and Six-Year Graduation Rates?

In the example above, if one of the three Non-On-Time Graduates does graduate in five years, the Five-Year Graduation Rate for this cohort will be  $18/20 = 90\%$  (assuming no new additions to or removals from the cohort). Extended year rates will be published.