

# Florida’s High School Cohort 2022-23 Graduation Rate

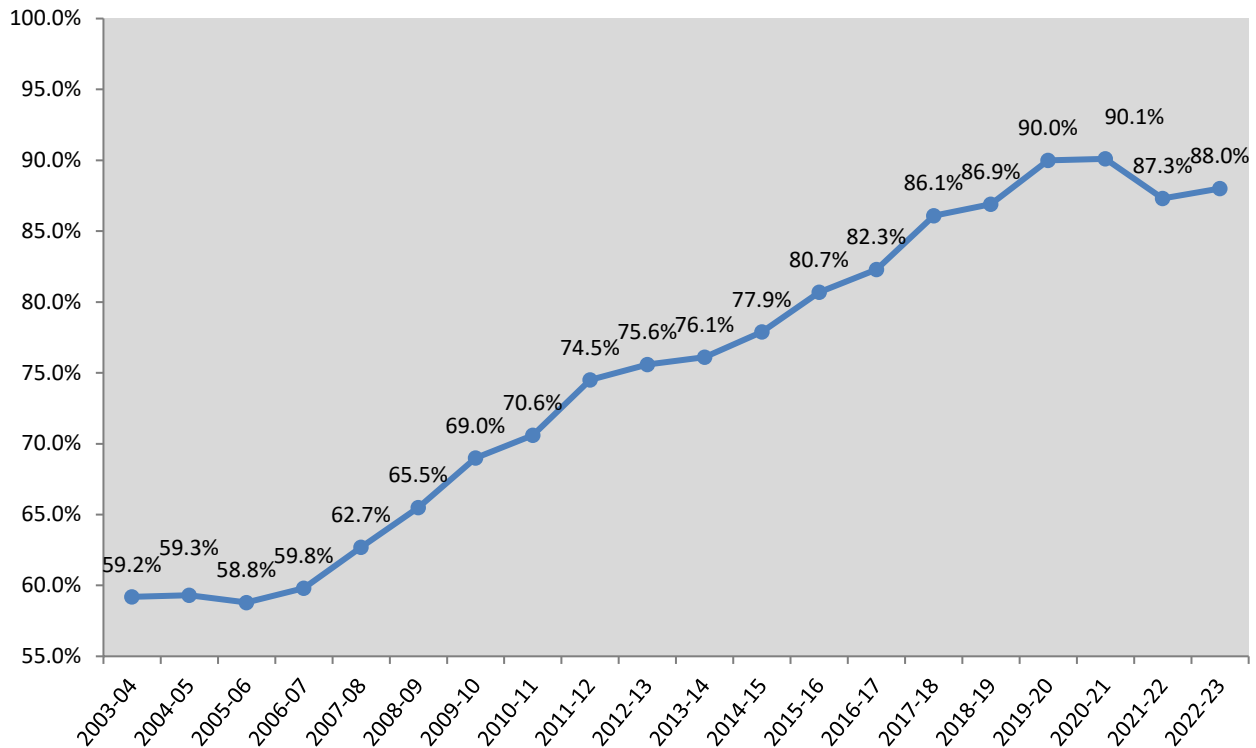
January 2024

## Florida’s Graduation Rate

Florida’s high school graduation rate increased by 0.7 percentage points over the last year, which continues to exceed the pre-pandemic rate. The graduation rate has increased significantly over the past nineteen years. The rate rose from 59.2 percent in 2003-04 to 88.0 percent in 2022-23, which is a 28.8 percentage-point increase. Figure 1 below shows the trend in graduation rates from 2003-04 through 2022-23. When comparing to the 2019-20 and 2020-21 graduation rates, it is important to note that pursuant to [Florida Department of Education Emergency Order No. 2020-EO-1](#) and [Florida Department of Education Emergency Order No. 2021-EO-02](#), students in the 2019-20 and 2020-21 graduating classes were exempt from statewide, standardized assessment requirements stipulated in s. 1003.4282, F.S. Further, the graduation rate has increased by 1.1 percentage points compared to 2018-19.

Federal regulations require each state to calculate a four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate, which includes standard diplomas but excludes GEDs, both regular and adult. The U.S. Department of Education (USED) adopted this calculation method in an effort to develop uniform, accurate, and comparable graduation rates across all states. The USED required states to begin calculating the adjusted cohort graduation rate in 2010-11. This graduation rate is currently used in Florida’s school accountability system in the school grades calculation.

**Figure 1: Florida’s Graduation Rates, 2003-04 through 2022-23**



Florida’s graduation rate is a cohort graduation rate. A cohort is defined as a group of students on the same schedule to graduate. The graduation rate measures the percentage of students who graduate within four years of their first

enrollment in ninth grade. Subsequent to their enrollment in ninth grade, students who transfer out or pass away are removed from the calculation. Entering transfer students are included in the graduation rate for the class with which they are scheduled to graduate, based on their grade level when they enroll in the public school system. District-level graduation rates are provided in Table 3. School-level graduation rates are available online at <http://fldoe.org/accountability/data-sys/edu-info-accountability-services/pk-12-public-school-data-pubs-reports/students.stml>.

In the calculation, stringent guidelines are prescribed for not only the definition of a graduate, but also for the definition of a transfer. Students who transfer to adult education programs or are placed in jails/Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) facilities remain with their Florida public high schools' cohorts.

## How Does Florida's Graduation Rate Compare with Other States' Rates?

- The most recent graduation rates released on all states by USED are the 2019-20 federal graduation rates available at [https://nces.ed.gov/ccd/tables/ACGR\\_RE\\_and\\_characteristics\\_2019-20.asp](https://nces.ed.gov/ccd/tables/ACGR_RE_and_characteristics_2019-20.asp). Florida's federal graduation rate in 2019-20 was ranked #9 in the nation.<sup>1</sup>
- Although the federal uniform graduation rate is calculated the same way by each state, states have different requirements for receiving a standard diploma, which means that the rates are not directly comparable from state to state.
- Florida's standard diploma is a rigorous credential for which standards and testing requirements have periodically increased. Because states have different criteria for awarding a standard diploma, comparing rates among states is problematic.

## Graduation Rates by Race/Ethnicity and Sex

Florida's graduation rates vary by race/ethnicity and sex, but seven of the nine subgroups have increased their graduation rates from 2021-22. The subgroups with the largest percentage point increases over 2021-22 include Black or African American students (1.2 percentage points), Male students (1.2 percentage points), and Hispanic/Latino students (0.9 percentage points).

**Table 1: Graduation Rates by Race/Ethnicity and Sex, 2018-19 through 2022-23**

| Year     | White | Black or African American | Hispanic/Latino | Asian | American Indian or Alaska Native | Two or More Races | Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander | Male  | Female | Total |
|----------|-------|---------------------------|-----------------|-------|----------------------------------|-------------------|---|-------|--------|-------|
| 2018-19  | 90.2% | 81.5%                     | 85.9%           | 95.6% | 77.5%                            | 88.2%             | 86.7%                                     | 83.9% | 90.0%  | 86.9% |
| 2019-20* | 91.7% | 86.6%                     | 89.5%           | 98.0% | 84.1%                            | 90.5%             | 90.5%                                     | 87.1% | 92.9%  | 90.0% |
| 2020-21* | 91.8% | 87.1%                     | 89.4%           | 97.5% | 89.0%                            | 89.9%             | 89.5%                                     | 87.4% | 92.9%  | 90.1% |
| 2021-22  | 90.6% | 82.0%                     | 85.9%           | 96.2% | 86.4%                            | 88.4%             | 86.8%                                     | 84.7% | 89.9%  | 87.3% |
| 2022-23  | 91.0% | 83.2%                     | 86.8%           | 96.9% | 84.7%                            | 88.4%             | 87.1%                                     | 85.9% | 90.0%  | 88.0% |

<sup>1</sup> The graduation rate reported by the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) may vary slightly from the rate reported by the U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) because the rate reported by FDOE accounts for students who attended schools that have closed during the 4-year tracking period, whereas the rate reported to NCES does not. In 2019-20, this represented a 0.2% difference (90.0% reported by FDOE vs. 90.2% reported by NCES).

**Table 2: Graduation Rates by Sex within Race/Ethnicity, 2018-19 through 2022-23**

| Year     | White Female | White Male | Black or African American Female | Black or African American Male | Hispanic/Latino Female | Hispanic/Latino Male | Asian Female | Asian Male |
|----------|--------------|------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|--------------|------------|
| 2018-19  | 92.6%        | 87.9%      | 86.1%                            | 77.0%                          | 88.9%                  | 82.9%                | 96.9%        | 94.4%      |
| 2019-20* | 94.1%        | 89.4%      | 90.7%                            | 82.5%                          | 92.5%                  | 86.6%                | 98.7%        | 97.3%      |
| 2020-21* | 94.0%        | 89.7%      | 90.8%                            | 83.4%                          | 92.4%                  | 86.4%                | 98.3%        | 96.8%      |
| 2021-22  | 92.6%        | 88.6%      | 86.0%                            | 78.1%                          | 88.5%                  | 83.3%                | 97.2%        | 95.3%      |
| 2022-23  | 92.6%        | 89.3%      | 86.4%                            | 80.0%                          | 88.8%                  | 84.8%                | 97.3%        | 96.5%      |

| Year     | American Indian or Alaska Native Female | American Indian or Alaska Native Male | Two or More Races Female | Two or More Races Male | Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander Female | Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander Male |
|----------|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--|--|
| 2018-19  | 83.5%                                   | 72.5%                                 | 90.7%                    | 85.4%                  | 91.0%  | 82.6%  |
| 2019-20* | 88.2%                                   | 80.0%                                 | 92.9%                    | 87.9%                  | 92.6%  | 88.4%  |
| 2020-21* | 93.2%                                   | 85.5%                                 | 93.0%                    | 86.8%                  | 95.5%  | 84.8%  |
| 2021-22  | 90.0%                                   | 83.2%                                 | 90.4%                    | 86.3%                  | 87.8%  | 85.8%  |
| 2022-23  | 87.3%                                   | 82.3%                                 | 90.0%                    | 86.7%                  | 90.3%  | 83.7%  |

**Table 3: Graduation Rates by District, 2018-19 through 2022-23**

| District      | 2018-19 | 2019-20* | 2020-21* | 2021-22 | 2022-23 |
|---------------|---------|----------|----------|---------|---------|
| FLORIDA       | 86.9%   | 90.0%    | 90.1%    | 87.3%   | 88.0%   |
| 01 Alachua    | 88.5%   | 90.4%    | 86.6%    | 85.8%   | 84.2%   |
| 02 Baker      | 78.8%   | 84.5%    | 85.7%    | 81.5%   | 76.4%   |
| 03 Bay        | 82.5%   | 88.5%    | 90.2%    | 85.3%   | 88.7%   |
| 04 Bradford   | 87.7%   | 88.2%    | 85.0%    | 76.1%   | 82.5%   |
| 05 Brevard    | 88.3%   | 90.3%    | 90.6%    | 87.2%   | 89.7%   |
| 06 Broward    | 86.2%   | 89.4%    | 89.1%    | 87.2%   | 88.7%   |
| 07 Calhoun    | 87.9%   | 89.9%    | 93.1%    | 93.6%   | 93.8%   |
| 08 Charlotte  | 86.4%   | 90.4%    | 90.9%    | 87.9%   | 85.9%   |
| 09 Citrus     | 86.0%   | 87.1%    | 88.1%    | 86.5%   | 84.9%   |
| 10 Clay       | 91.9%   | 93.4%    | 92.7%    | 89.9%   | 90.9%   |
| 11 Collier    | 91.9%   | 92.2%    | 92.7%    | 91.5%   | 91.5%   |
| 12 Columbia   | 92.4%   | 95.4%    | 95.6%    | 89.6%   | 91.6%   |
| 13 Miami-Dade | 85.6%   | 89.6%    | 90.1%    | 88.2%   | 90.3%   |
| 14 DeSoto     | 71.3%   | 84.6%    | 82.0%    | 75.1%   | 72.6%   |
| 15 Dixie      | 90.6%   | 89.8%    | 84.0%    | 82.7%   | 88.9%   |
| 16 Duval      | 86.5%   | 90.2%    | 89.6%    | 85.6%   | 87.2%   |
| 17 Escambia   | 84.8%   | 86.5%    | 87.0%    | 78.4%   | 80.5%   |
| 18 Flagler    | 88.7%   | 92.3%    | 91.2%    | 90.5%   | 87.8%   |
| 19 Franklin   | 70.6%   | 73.1%    | 74.4%    | 82.7%   | 75.4%   |
| 20 Gadsden    | 60.4%   | 77.1%    | 82.7%    | 75.9%   | 72.9%   |
| 21 Gilchrist  | 89.4%   | 90.1%    | 86.7%    | 87.6%   | 81.6%   |

| District |              | 2018-19 | 2019-20* | 2020-21* | 2021-22 | 2022-23 |
|----------|--------------|---------|----------|----------|---------|---------|
| FLORIDA  |              | 86.9%   | 90.0%    | 90.1%    | 87.3%   | 88.0%   |
| 22       | Glades       | 91.4%   | 89.6%    | 78.5%    | 89.2%   | 86.0%   |
| 23       | Gulf         | 83.6%   | 85.3%    | 86.5%    | 90.5%   | 80.1%   |
| 24       | Hamilton     | 73.1%   | 87.0%    | 83.8%    | 75.4%   | 78.5%   |
| 25       | Hardee       | 81.2%   | 91.4%    | 88.3%    | 84.5%   | 80.5%   |
| 26       | Hendry       | 83.7%   | 90.4%    | 86.6%    | 75.7%   | 71.2%   |
| 27       | Hernando     | 88.4%   | 91.7%    | 91.0%    | 89.0%   | 89.0%   |
| 28       | Highlands    | 81.2%   | 83.3%    | 84.4%    | 82.6%   | 80.2%   |
| 29       | Hillsborough | 86.2%   | 88.8%    | 89.2%    | 87.9%   | 86.2%   |
| 30       | Holmes       | 85.5%   | 93.4%    | 90.8%    | 85.0%   | 81.5%   |
| 31       | Indian River | 88.5%   | 93.4%    | 95.0%    | 94.6%   | 95.6%   |
| 32       | Jackson      | 84.7%   | 91.0%    | 84.1%    | 82.6%   | 76.6%   |
| 33       | Jefferson    | 62.7%   | 85.4%    | 81.8%    | 76.5%   | 66.7%   |
| 34       | Lafayette    | 98.8%   | 97.7%    | 97.5%    | 97.6%   | 94.7%   |
| 35       | Lake         | 86.8%   | 91.2%    | 90.6%    | 88.6%   | 89.8%   |
| 36       | Lee          | 83.7%   | 88.5%    | 85.1%    | 82.5%   | 85.1%   |
| 37       | Leon         | 92.4%   | 94.4%    | 94.0%    | 86.8%   | 86.1%   |
| 38       | Levy         | 88.1%   | 89.6%    | 93.8%    | 92.8%   | 95.4%   |
| 39       | Liberty      | 84.2%   | 87.2%    | 82.6%    | 76.7%   | 72.5%   |
| 40       | Madison      | 82.5%   | 87.2%    | 88.2%    | 78.6%   | 83.2%   |
| 41       | Manatee      | 83.2%   | 85.8%    | 85.1%    | 80.3%   | 82.3%   |
| 42       | Marion       | 83.8%   | 87.1%    | 86.5%    | 83.5%   | 77.9%   |
| 43       | Martin       | 87.4%   | 90.2%    | 94.1%    | 90.7%   | 90.3%   |
| 44       | Monroe       | 86.0%   | 92.0%    | 91.5%    | 88.2%   | 89.0%   |
| 45       | Nassau       | 92.3%   | 91.6%    | 93.4%    | 93.3%   | 91.0%   |
| 46       | Okaloosa     | 87.9%   | 90.0%    | 92.2%    | 87.5%   | 87.9%   |
| 47       | Okeechobee   | 75.8%   | 84.2%    | 85.1%    | 75.3%   | 71.7%   |
| 48       | Orange       | 88.4%   | 90.4%    | 90.4%    | 87.0%   | 89.1%   |
| 49       | Osceola      | 90.0%   | 90.7%    | 89.7%    | 85.2%   | 84.8%   |
| 50       | Palm Beach   | 87.1%   | 90.2%    | 91.0%    | 89.0%   | 90.5%   |
| 51       | Pasco        | 88.3%   | 89.9%    | 91.0%    | 90.2%   | 91.1%   |
| 52       | Pinellas     | 88.4%   | 91.5%    | 92.0%    | 88.1%   | 87.7%   |
| 53       | Polk         | 81.2%   | 86.5%    | 85.3%    | 78.3%   | 78.3%   |
| 54       | Putnam       | 86.3%   | 90.1%    | 92.5%    | 88.5%   | 88.9%   |
| 55       | St. Johns    | 94.3%   | 94.8%    | 95.0%    | 93.3%   | 94.0%   |
| 56       | St. Lucie    | 90.4%   | 93.2%    | 94.5%    | 90.8%   | 91.5%   |
| 57       | Santa Rosa   | 88.9%   | 90.3%    | 90.3%    | 89.9%   | 90.4%   |
| 58       | Sarasota     | 89.4%   | 92.5%    | 91.0%    | 88.9%   | 90.3%   |
| 59       | Seminole     | 92.8%   | 94.5%    | 95.5%    | 93.0%   | 91.7%   |
| 60       | Sumter       | 87.2%   | 88.0%    | 91.0%    | 93.1%   | 94.3%   |
| 61       | Suwannee     | 93.7%   | 91.3%    | 94.1%    | 91.5%   | 89.6%   |
| 62       | Taylor       | 83.9%   | 92.8%    | 86.9%    | 87.4%   | 80.6%   |
| 63       | Union        | 84.4%   | 79.6%    | 88.3%    | 77.8%   | 85.9%   |
| 64       | Volusia      | 84.5%   | 87.7%    | 91.9%    | 88.9%   | 91.6%   |
| 65       | Wakulla      | 91.6%   | 93.8%    | 95.5%    | 97.0%   | 97.6%   |
| 66       | Walton       | 88.9%   | 91.5%    | 91.4%    | 96.7%   | 95.7%   |
| 67       | Washington   | 80.5%   | 89.6%    | 87.9%    | 88.4%   | 82.6%   |
| 68       | Deaf/Blind   | 84.1%   | 90.6%    | 96.8%    | 90.3%   | 90.6%   |
| 71       | FL Virtual   | 87.7%   | 95.4%    | 95.9%    | 90.0%   | 92.6%   |

| District |                 | 2018-19 | 2019-20* | 2020-21* | 2021-22 | 2022-23 |
|----------|-----------------|---------|----------|----------|---------|---------|
| FLORIDA  |                 | 86.9%   | 90.0%    | 90.1%    | 87.3%   | 88.0%   |
| 72       | FAU Lab School  | 100.0%  | 100.0%   | 100.0%   | 100.0%  | 100.0%  |
| 73       | FSU Lab School  | 99.3%   | 96.4%    | 98.7%    | 99.4%   | 99.4%   |
| 74       | FAMU Lab School | 89.7%   | 100.0%   | 98.0%    | 94.7%   | 91.7%   |
| 75       | UF Lab School   | 98.1%   | 97.3%    | 100.0%   | 97.4%   | 100.0%  |

**Notes:**

Source: 2022-23 FDOE cohort graduation data as of 12/20/23.

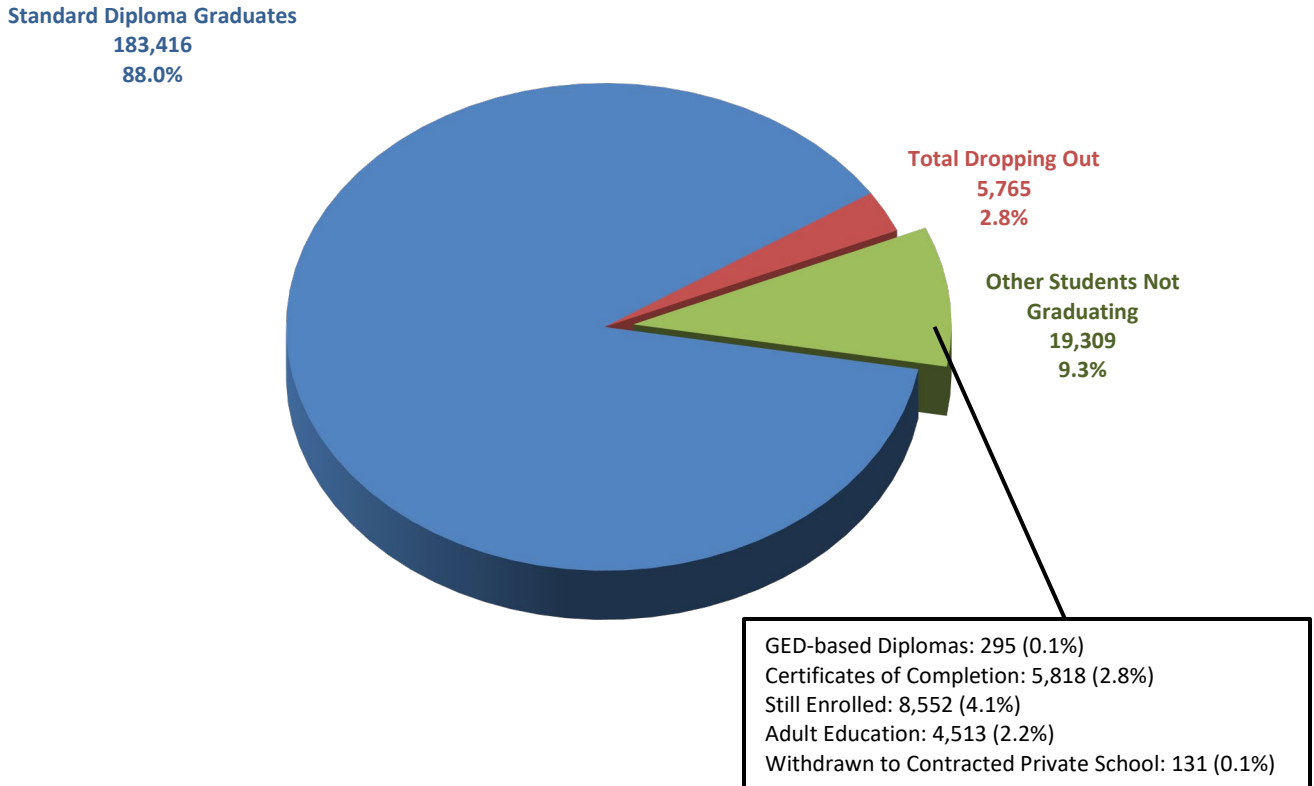
\* When comparing to the 2019-20 and 2020-21 graduation rates, it is important to note that pursuant to [Florida Department of Education Emergency Order No. 2020-EO-1](#) and [Florida Department of Education Emergency Order No. 2021-EO-2](#), students in the 2019-20 and 2020-21 graduating class were exempt from statewide, standardized assessment requirements stipulated in s. 1003.4282, F.S.

## Withdrawal Status of All Students in the Graduation Cohort

Florida’s graduation rate is 88.0 percent, but that does not mean that 12.0 percent of students in the cohort are dropouts. Students in a cohort can be classified as graduates, non-graduates, or dropouts. Non-graduates include students who have been retained and are still in school, attending adult education, received certificates of completion, or received GED-based diplomas. Florida’s 2017 Legislature amended section 1008.34, Florida Statutes, so that high school students who transfer to a private school with which the school district has a contractual relationship remain included in the 4-year adjusted graduation rate cohort of the last public high school they attended. These students are included in the percentage of non-graduates.

In Florida’s 2022-23 cohort, 2.8 percent of the students dropped out and 9.3 percent are classified as non-graduates who are still enrolled in school, are attending adult education, earned a certificate of completion, earned a GED-based diploma, or withdrew to a contracted private school. Figure 2 illustrates the proportions of students in the 2022-23 cohort who graduated, dropped out, or did not graduate.

**Figure 2: 2022-23 Cohort Outcomes by Withdrawal Categories**



**Note:** Non-graduates include students who are still enrolled in school, attending adult education, earned a certificate of completion, earned a GED-based diploma, or withdrew to a contracted private school.



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