

News Release

Education Information Services ■ 125 South Webster Street ■ P.O. Box 7841 ■ Madison, WI 53707-7841 ■ (608) 266-3559

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Tom McCarthy, DPI Communications Officer, (608) 266-3559

Graduation rate up, gaps closing

MADISON — The class of 2014 had a statewide graduation rate of 88.6 percent, up 0.6 points from the prior year and 2.9 points from the 2009-10 school year. The four-year graduation rate, based on a uniform federal standard, includes all students who earned a regular public high school diploma.

Wisconsin also calculates five-year and six-year graduation rates to account for students who, by state and federal law, have additional time to complete their high school education. For the 2013-14 school year, the five-year graduation rate was 91.3 percent and the six-year rate, 91.5 percent. Both were up from the prior year.

“I am so proud of our students,” said State Superintendent Tony Evers. “High school graduation is an important milestone for individuals and their families and advances our Agenda 2017 priority. We want every child to graduate with the knowledge and skills needed for college and careers. This data shows we are moving in the right direction.”

The public high school class of 2014 included 58,588 students who graduated in four years out of a cohort of 66,098. Data shows closing gaps in graduation rates between 2009-10 and 2013-14 for students across all racial and ethnic groups as well as for students with disabilities and those from economically disadvantaged families. While closing, gaps in graduation rates remain large.

“Our students need secure options for completing their high school education and moving on to college and careers,” Evers said. “The conflicts over school operations and funding take a toll when they diminish opportunities for our kids. We have an obligation to fund our public schools so we have staff to provide support inside and outside of the classroom, special programming for students who struggle, and enrichment opportunities for those who need additional challenges.”

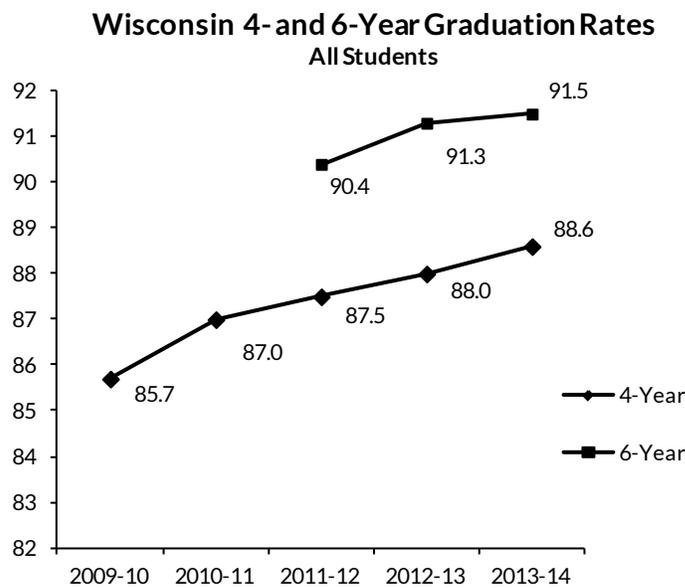
This is the second year the Department of Public Instruction is reporting graduation rates through the [Wisconsin Information System for Education Dashboard Public Portal](#) (WISEdash). Under the federal graduation rate

4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate	
2009-10	85.7%
2010-11	87.0%
2011-12	87.5%
2012-13	88.0%
2013-14	88.6%
6-Year Cohort Graduation Rate	
2011-12	90.4%
2012-13	91.3%
2013-14	91.5%

(more)

definition, each student is assigned to a cohort when entering high school, the 2010-11 school year for the class of 2014. The cohort is adjusted for students who transfer to another state or nonpublic school, emigrate to another country, or die during the timeframe. The graduation rate is based on students who earn a regular high school diploma.

Included with this data upload is current postsecondary outcomes from the National Student Clearinghouse. For students who completed public high school in the 2013-14 school year, 59.3 percent enrolled in a college or university in fall 2014. Of the 36,410 public school students who continued their studies after high school, most went to a four-year college or university. About one-third (32.8 percent) went to a two-year postsecondary institution. Four out of five students went to a public college or university after high school. Unlike graduation data, which is not changed once certified, postsecondary outcome data is updated twice a year.



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NOTES: Additional information about graduation rates is available on the attached table. District- and school-level graduation rate data is available on WISEdash, the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction’s public data portal, <http://wisedash.dpi.wi.gov/>. Click on the “Graduation” tab. This news release is available electronically at http://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/news-release/dpinr2015_46.pdf.

Wisconsin Graduation Rates Statewide by Student Group

Percent of Students Earning a Regular High School Diploma

	4-Year					5-Year				6-Year		
	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
All Students	85.7	87.0	87.5	88.0	88.6	89.5	90.4	90.8	91.3	90.4	91.3	91.5
American Indian	67.7	71.7	75.5	74.1	78.4	73.9	77.5	79.9	78.7	75.3	79.3	81.4
Asian *	83.4	88.4	88.4	90.2	89.9	91.2	92.7	92.7	94.6	92.1	93.7	93.5
Black or African American	60.5	63.8	62.7	64.8	65.0	69.3	71.5	71.2	72.1	71.5	73.8	73.3
Hispanic / Latino	69.0	72.0	74.3	74.3	78.1	76.6	78.8	80.7	81.8	78.1	80.5	82.0
Pacific Islander	--	82.5	88.7	79.4	88.6	--	87.2	94.2	91.2	--	87.2	94.2
White, Not Hispanic	90.7	91.4	92.2	92.4	92.9	93.3	93.9	94.3	94.6	94.0	94.5	94.8
Two or More Races	--	85.7	83.9	85.6	85.3	--	91.1	89.5	89.9	--	92.2	90.9
Female	88.1	89.4	89.7	90.6	90.8	91.4	92.2	92.4	93.2	92.2	92.9	93.0
Male	83.3	84.7	85.4	85.5	86.6	87.7	88.8	89.2	89.4	88.8	89.9	90.1
With Disabilities	64.6	67.1	68.6	68.7	69.0	74.3	76.9	78.1	77.2	78.8	81.3	81.5
Without Disabilities	88.6	89.8	90.0	90.4	91.1	91.6	92.3	92.4	93.0	92.0	92.7	92.8
Economically Disadvantaged	71.7	74.1	74.9	76.6	77.9	79.5	81.0	81.8	82.5	81.3	83.2	83.3
Not Economically Disadvantaged	90.6	91.9	92.9	93.1	93.8	92.9	94.0	94.5	95.1	93.5	94.4	94.9
English-Language Learners	65.1	66.0	66.1	62.3	64.0	76.5	74.4	75.0	73.0	77.8	76.2	77.0
English Proficient	86.3	87.6	88.2	88.6	89.2	89.9	90.9	91.2	91.7	90.8	91.8	92.0

* Also included Pacific Islander through 2009-10.

NOTE: Due to 2010-11 race and ethnicity reporting changes, caution is urged in comparing graduation rates by race and ethnicity. See: <http://wise.dpi.wi.gov/about-data-graduation>.

Definition: The graduation rate counts only students earning a regular diploma in the numerator of the formula. The denominator is the adjusted cohort. Students are assigned a cohort year when they first enroll in a Wisconsin public high school. At the end of the selected graduation timeframe (4-year, 5-year, or 6-year), adjustments are made to remove any student from the assigned cohort if the student has transferred to another state or a nonpublic Wisconsin school, emigrated to another country, or has died prior to the end of that timeframe. The number of years in the cohort group includes the summer following the last school year.