



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PHILADELPHIA

Office of Evaluation, Research, and Accountability

Research Roundup Webinar Series #3: 9th Grade On-Track Rates and High School Graduation

May 25, 2022

Agenda

- **About ERA and the Research Roundup Webinar Series**
- **Part 1:** Graduation rates
- **Part 2:** 9th grade on-track
- **Part 3:** CTE vs. non-CTE graduation rate trends
- **Q & A**

This webinar is being recorded.

The recording and a PDF of the slide deck will be available at: philasd.org/research/roundup

Please introduce yourself in the chat!

Evaluation, Research, and Accountability

philasd.org/era

Evaluation, Research, and Accountability

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What can we help you find?

Every year, we collect millions of data points on student achievement, leadership, school climate, and progress.

Our offices work with the data to evaluate and report outcomes and develop informational tools.

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AND GUARDRAILS

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PERFORMANCE DATA

SCHOOL SUPPORTS

ASSESSMENTS &
ACCOUNTABILITY

SURVEYS

RESEARCH REVIEW
COMMITTEE (RRC)

Office of Research and
Evaluation


District Performance Office

Planning and Evidence-Based
Supports Office

Office of Assessments

Office of Data Governance

Evaluation, Research, and Accountability



[Compare Schools](#) [User Guide](#) [Video Tutorials](#)

SCHOOL PROFILES

Find out how a school or group of schools is performing.

Search for a school or narrow your search using the filters below. You can also view data for groups of schools (for example, all Charter Schools or all Network 1 schools) by clicking on "School Groupings."

[Find a School](#) [School Groupings](#)

Search for a school:

ACADEMY AT PALIMBO

ACADEMY FOR THE MIDDLE YEARS (AMY) AT NORTHWEST

AD PRIMA CHARTER SCHOOL

ADAIRE, ALEXANDER SCHOOL

ALLEN, DR. ETHEL SCHOOL

ALLEN, ETHAN SCHOOL

ALLEN, RICHARD PREPARATORY CHARTER SCHOOL

ALLIANCE FOR PROGRESS CHARTER SCHOOL

ALTERNATIVE MIDDLE YEARS (AMY) AT JAMES MARTIN

ANDERSON, ADD B. SCHOOL

ARTHUR, CHESTER A. SCHOOL

ARTS ACADEMY AT BENJAMIN RUSH

PHILADELPHIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DATA FOR DISTRICT, CHARTER, ALTERNATIVE, AND OTHER/CYBER STUDENTS AND SCHOOLS

Enrollment: 2021-2022 (next update November 2022)

Performance data: 2020-2021 for Attendance and College & Career data; 2019-2020 for suspension rates; 2020-2021 for Survey results; 2018-2019 for all other data due to COVID (next update February 2022)

In Spring 2020, students and schools were impacted by COVID-19, including related closures and assessment cancellations. Comparison of 2019-20 data to prior years should be made with caution.

TOTAL ENROLLMENT

198,645

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA
CENTRAL OFFICE
440 N. Broad Street
Philadelphia, PA 19130
p: 215-400-4000

SUPERINTENDENT
William R. Hite, Jr., Ed.D.

2018-19 PSSA & KEYSTONE - ELA PERFORMANCE (ALL GRADES)

36%

1 POINT
DECREASE
FROM LAST
YEAR

The percentage of students who scored Proficient or Advanced on the state standardized English Language Arts exam.

DISTRICT SCHOOLS 216
ENROLLMENT 114,902

CHARTER SCHOOLS 85
ENROLLMENT 66,390

ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS 24
ENROLLMENT 2,766

OTHER/CYBER CHARTERS
ENROLLMENT 14,067

DISTRICT PROGRESS TOWARDS GOALS AND GUARANTEES
MORE PUBLIC SCHOOLS DATA
DISTRICT FAST FACTS

2018-19 PSSA & KEYSTONE -

2018-19 READING ON GRADE

philasd.org/opendata






School Information

Click below to expand the table to view a description of the data and download a data set for a specific school year. You can also download a Zip file that contains all available years for a specific School Information category.


The public release of this data supports our goals to promote greater transparency and community engagement. Before accessing these data, please review the [Terms and Conditions](#).

- + School Lists
- + School Enrollment & Demographics
- + District Enrollment & Demographics
- + Pre-School Information
- + Catchment Feeder Schools
- + School Catchment Areas
- + School Catchment Retention Details
- + School Catchment Retention Counts
- + District Wide Surveys
- + Youth Risk Behavior Survey

Data Sets

-  **School Information**
Information on schools' attributes
-  **School Performance**
Student performance and climate through the school year
-  **District Employees and Finance**
Expenditure, Employee, Budget, and FTE Data
-  **Advancing Education Safely**
Information on hybrid learning and COVID-19 testing
-  **Terms and Conditions**
Please read!


Quick Data

-  **School Profiles**

schoolprofiles.philasd.org

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Evaluation, Research, and Accountability



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
 PHILADELPHIA

Assessment Overview

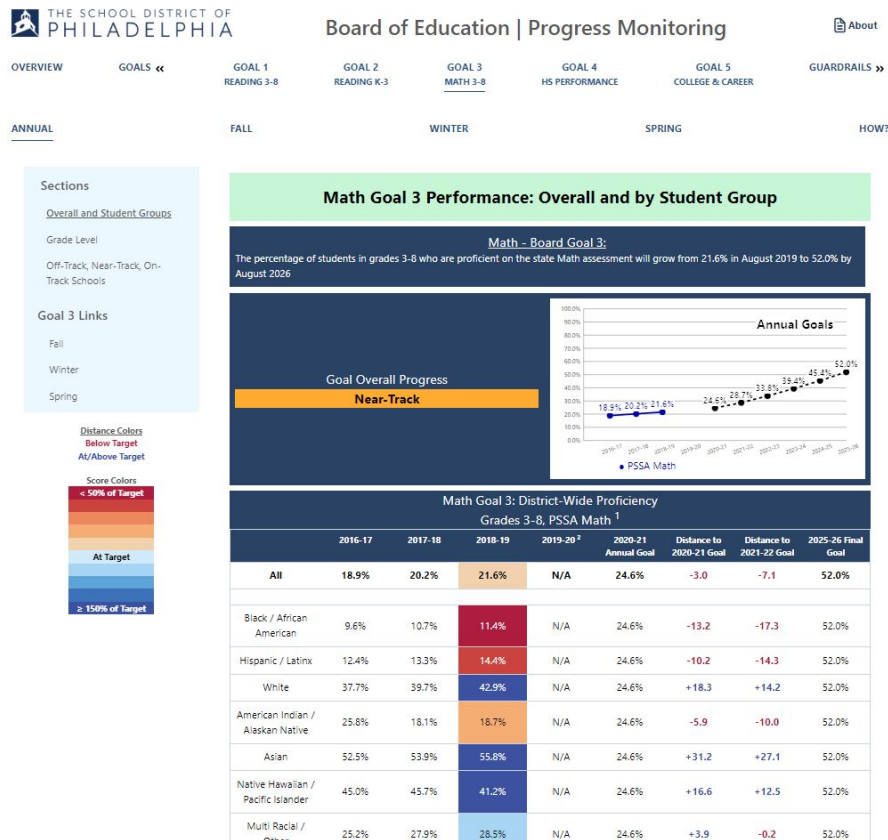
2021-22

August 2021

Office of Evaluation, Research, and Accountability (ERA)

[Assessment Calendar](#) |
 [Office of Assessment](#)

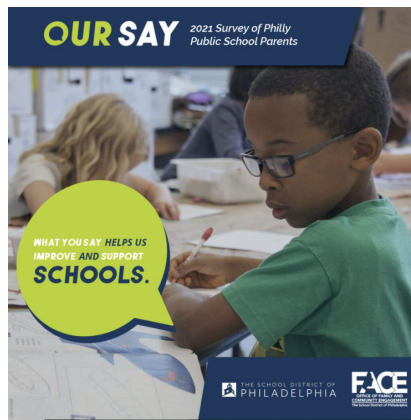
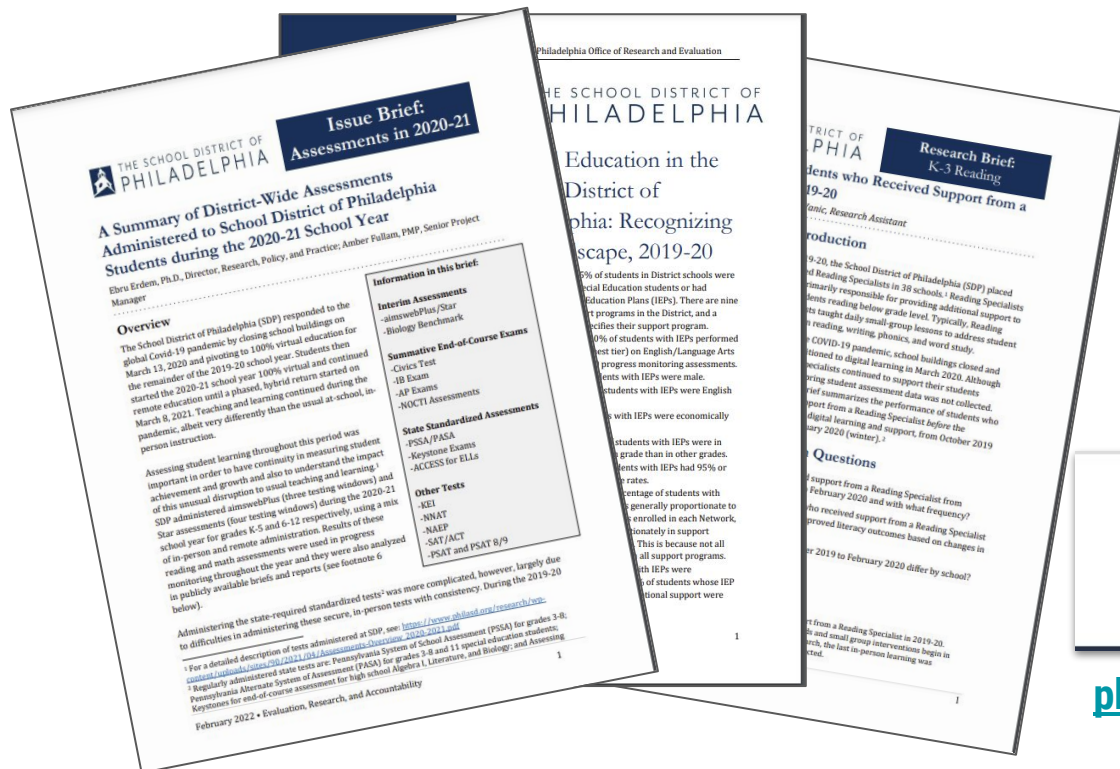
philasd.org/era/assessment/



philasd.org/era/goals-and-guardrails

Office of Research and Evaluation

philasd.org/research



philasd.org/dws



External Research Review

Comprehensive information about the Research Review Committee process - a requirement before conducting any research in SDP



phledresearch.org/

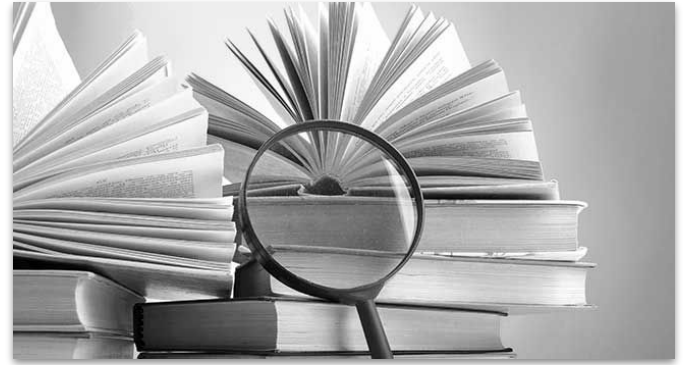


philasd.org/research/programsservices/reports/

What is a Research Roundup?

- Monthly webinar series with a topical focus
- Work in progress
- Sign up to be notified when webinars are scheduled and when recordings are available

www.philasd.org/research/roundup



Goals for This Presentation

Attendees will better understand:

1. How we measure graduation rates in SDP
2. How we measure 9th grade on track
3. Graduation rates for CTE and non-CTE students

ORE Reports related to graduation rates:

<https://www.philasd.org/research/category/college-career/high-school-graduation/>



Board Goals and Guardrails

GOALS

- 01 Grade 3-8 Reading
- 02 Grade K-3 Reading
- 03 Grade 3-8 Math
- 04 High School Keystones
- 05 High School CTE

philasd.org/goalsandguardrails
philasd.org/era/goals-and-guardrails/

GUARDRAILS

- 01 Welcome and Supportive Schools
- 02 Enriching and Well-Rounded School Experiences
- 03 Partnering with Parents and Families
- 04 Addressing Racist Practices



Goal 4: College and Career (Grades 9-11)

Goal 4: The percentage of students who are proficient on all three state high school assessments (Algebra, Literature, and Biology) by the end of their 11th grade year will grow from 26.1% in August 2019 to 52.0% by August 2026. **Target 2021-22: 31.7%**

Indicator 4.1: The percentage of students in grades 9-11 who score at or above grade level on the District's within-year math and reading assessments.

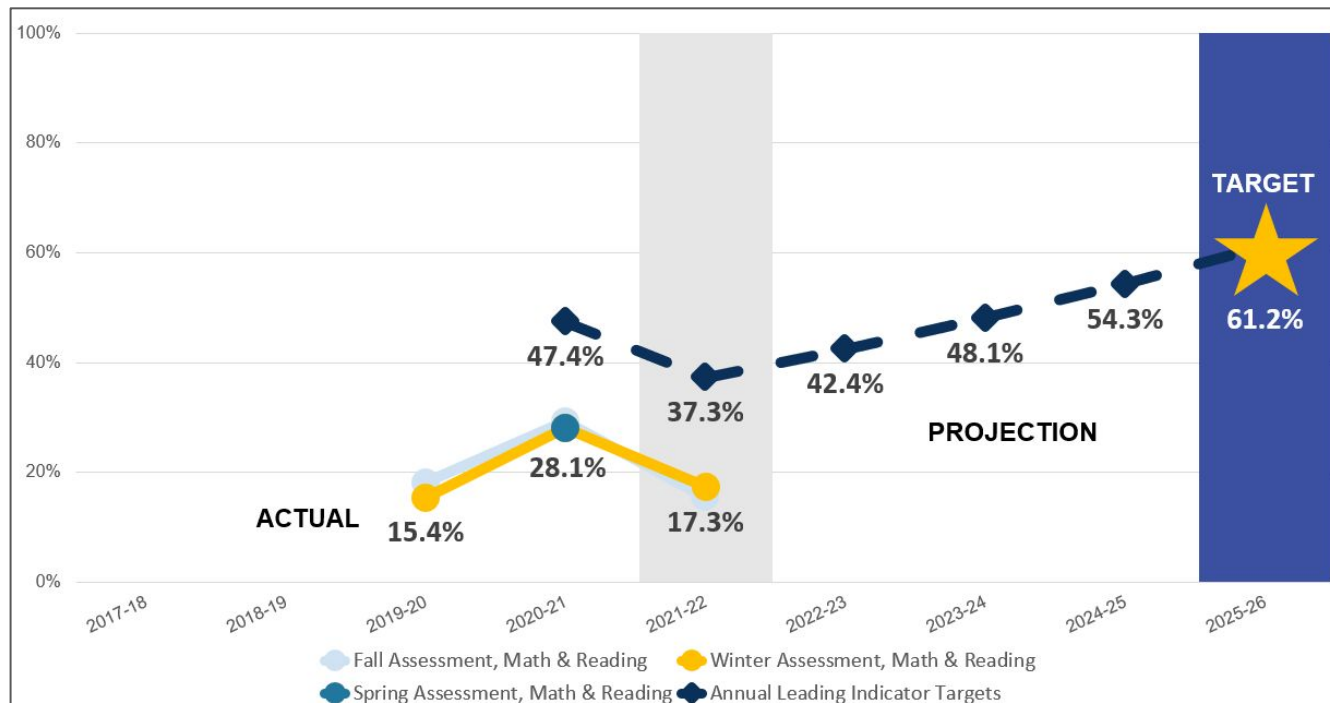
Target 2021-22: 37.3%

Indicator 4.2: The percentage of students who are proficient on all three Keystones by the end of their 10th grade year. **Target 2021-22: 27.3%**

Goal 4 Progress

Goal 4.1 (Grade 9-11 Math & ELA): Progress Toward the Board Goal

% of students in grades 9-11 who are at or above grade level



Goal 5: CTE and NOCTI

Goal 5: The percentage of CTE students who pass an industry standards-based competency assessment (NOCTI) by the end of their 12th grade year will grow from 49.9% in August 2019 to 80.0% in August 2026. **Target 2021-22: 60.0%**

Indicator 5.1:

The percentage of students in grade 11 who are passing their Level 2 Career and Technical course (with a grade of A or B). **Target 2021-22: 66.7%**

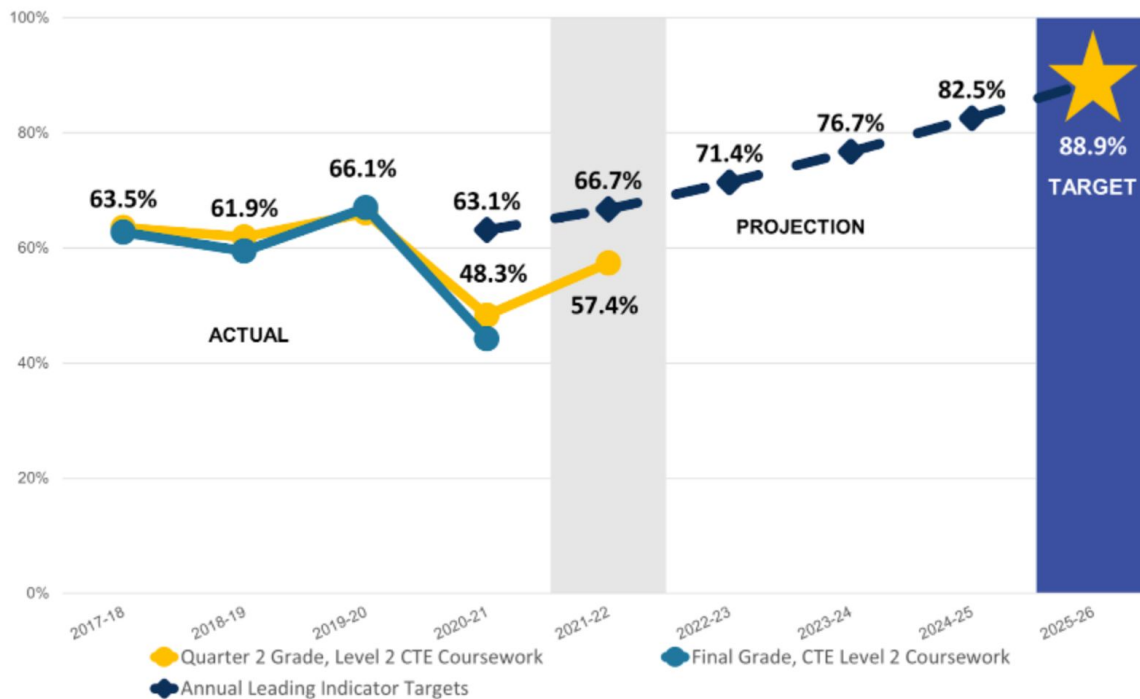
Indicator 5.2:

The percentage of students in grade 10 who are passing their Level 1 Career and Technical course (with a grade of A or B). **Target 2021-22: 66.7%**

Goal 5 Progress

Leading Indicator 5.1 (Grade 11 CTE): Progress Toward the Board Goal

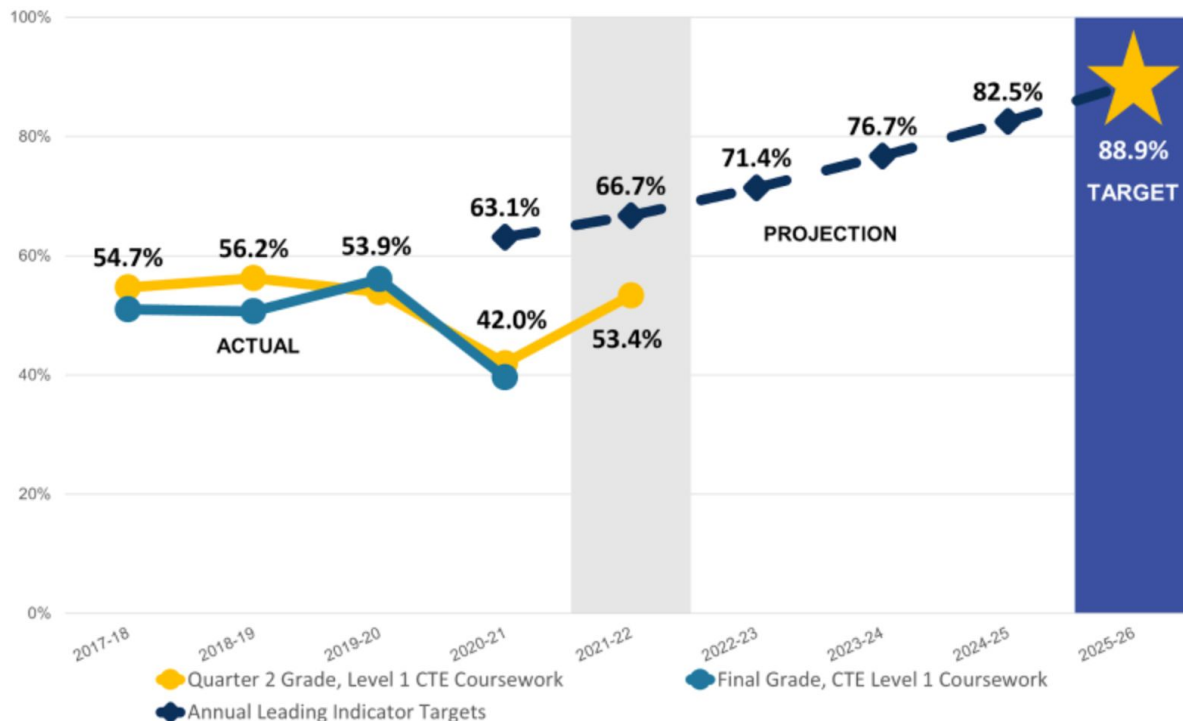
% of CTE students in grade 11 who passed CTE Coursework with As and Bs



Goal 5 Progress

Leading Indicator 5.2 (Grade 10 CTE): Progress Toward the Board Goal

% of CTE students in grade 10 who passed CTE Coursework with As and Bs



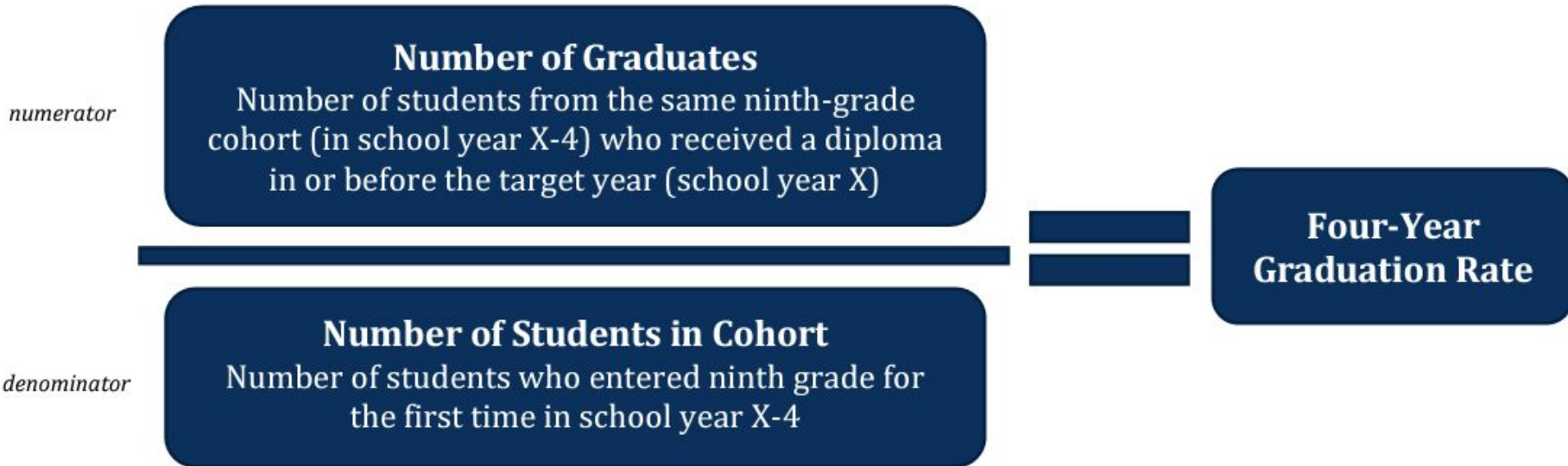
Part 1: Graduation Rates



Graduation Rate Metrics at SDP

- On-time, 5th and 6th year
- SDP, SDP+Alternative, SDP+Alternative+Charter
- District vs. School level, attribution business rules

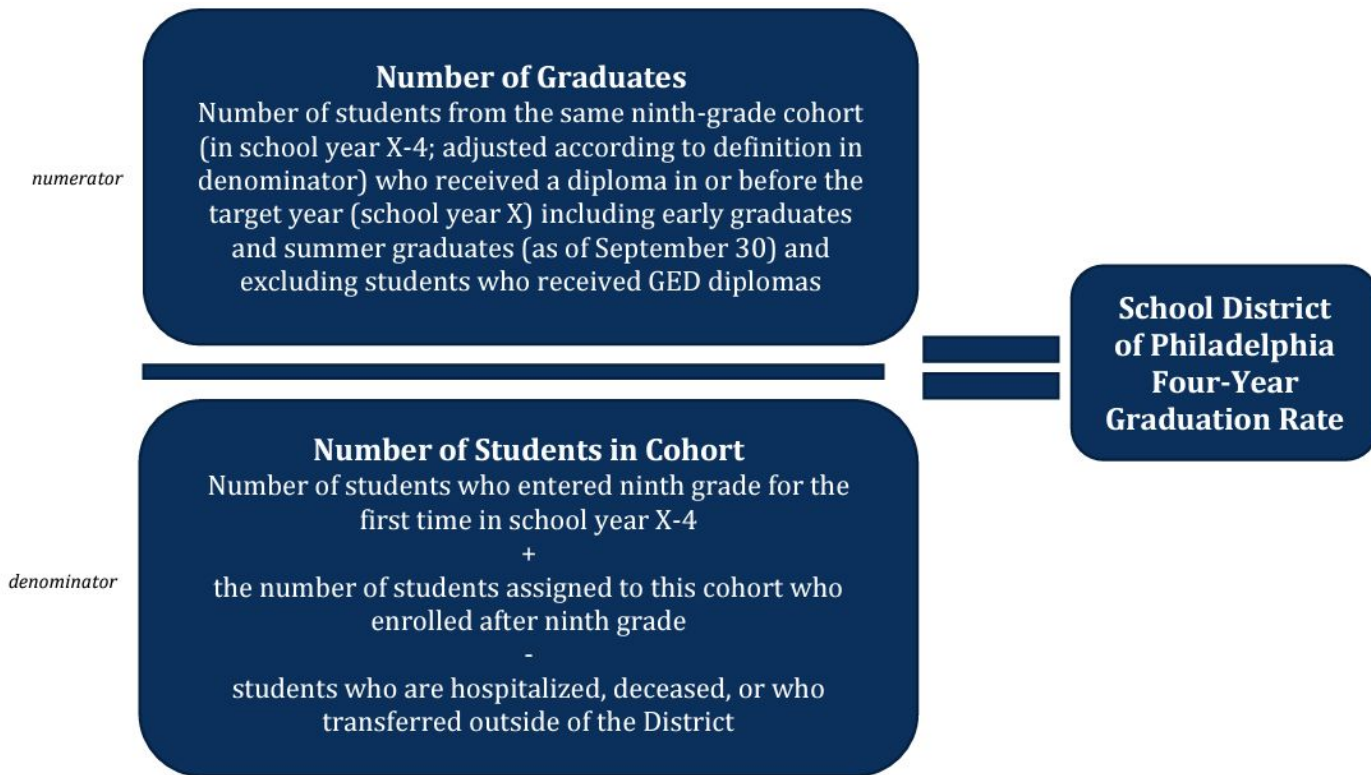
Four-Year Graduation Rate Definition



School year X refers to the **four-year graduation target year**.

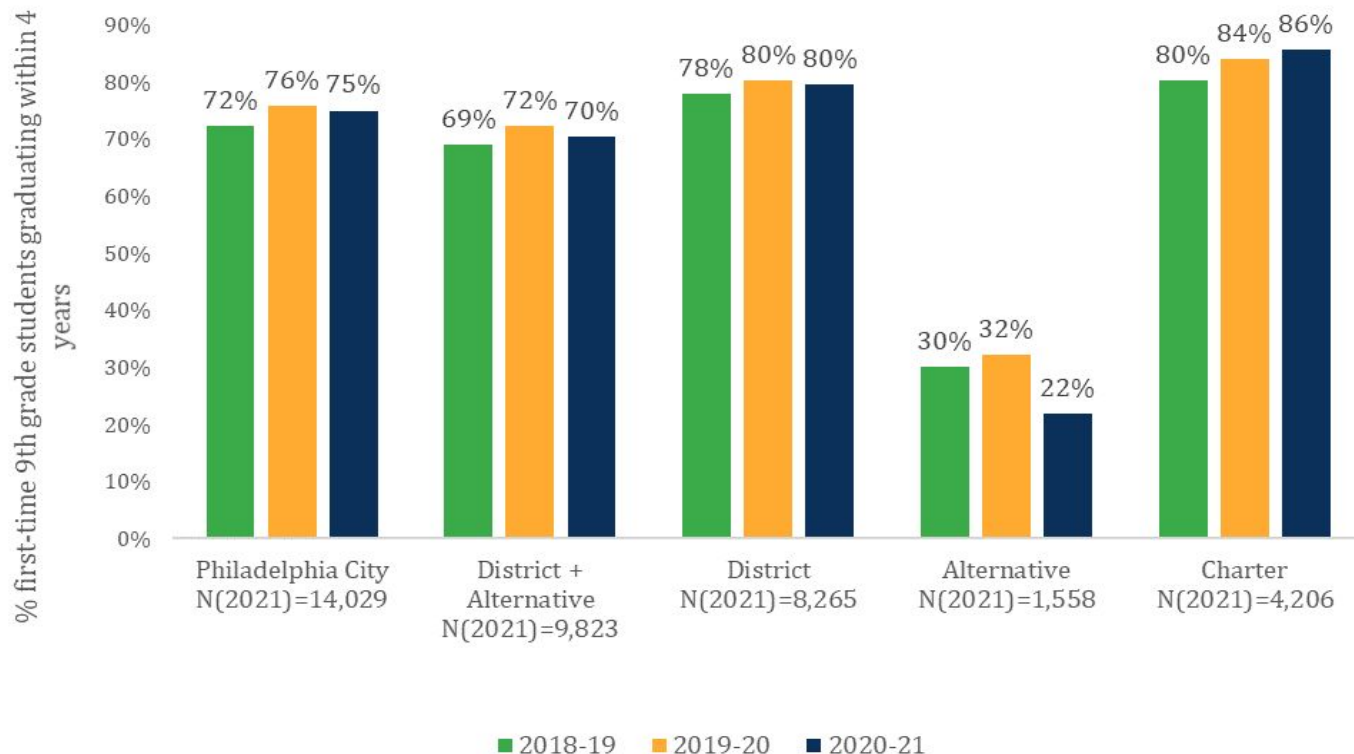
School year X-4 refers to the **first-time ninth-grade cohort year**.

SDP Four-Year Graduation Rate Calculation

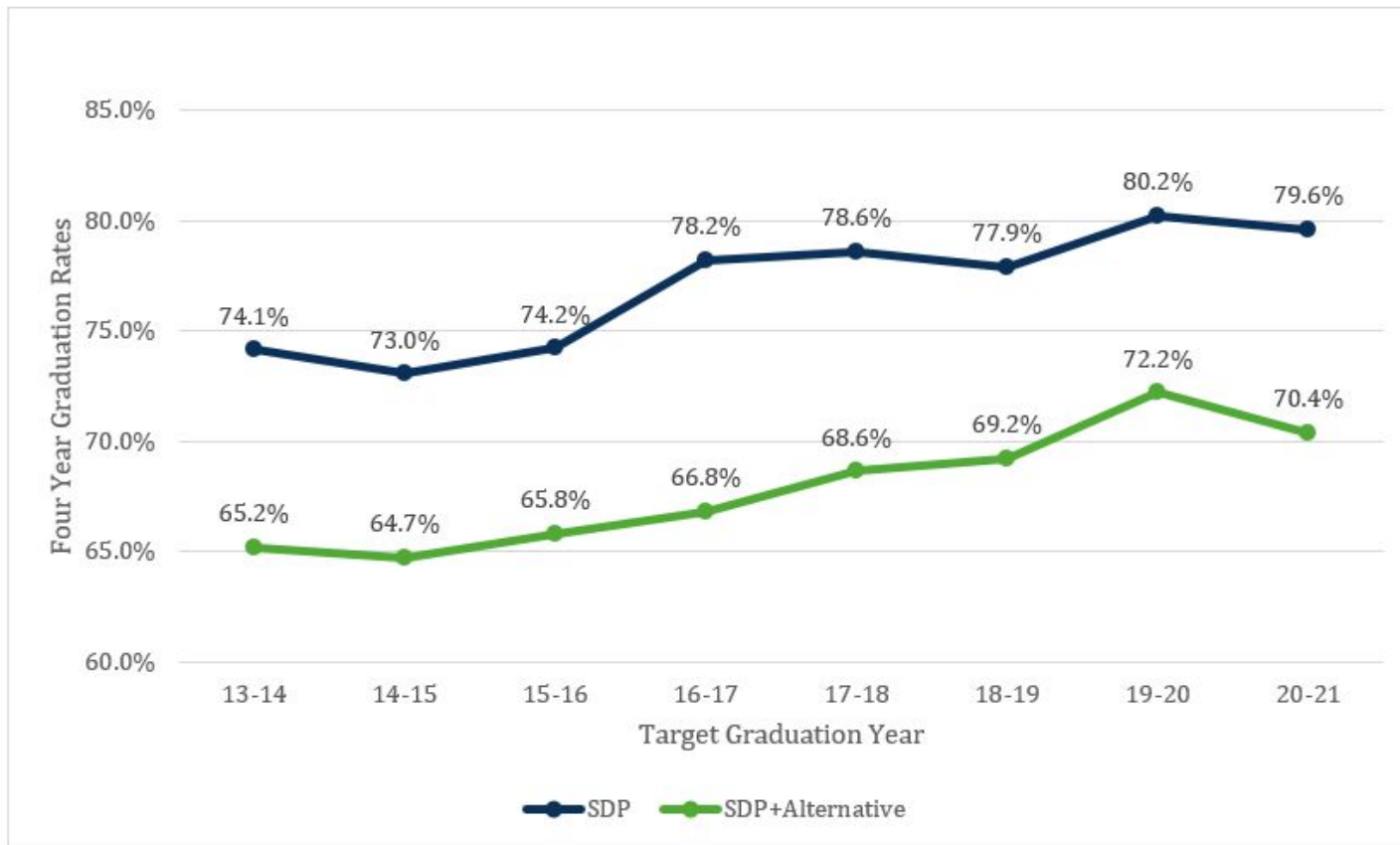


School year X refers to the **four-year graduation target year**.
School year X-4 refers to the **first-time ninth-grade cohort year**.

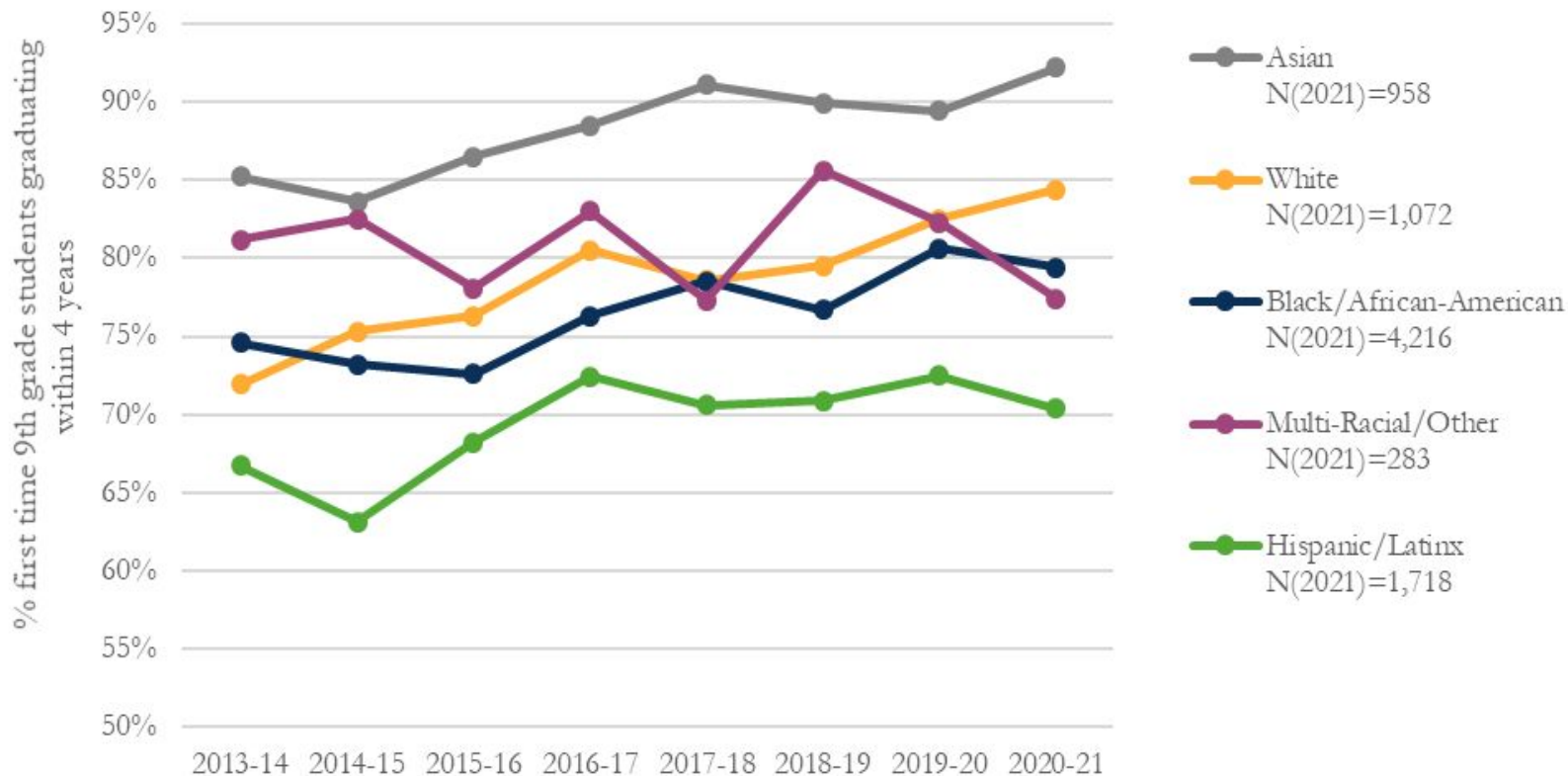
Graduation Rates in Philadelphia, Last 3 Years



Trends in SDP Four-Year Graduation Rates



Graduation Rates by Race/Ethnicity



Where to find SDP Graduation Rates?

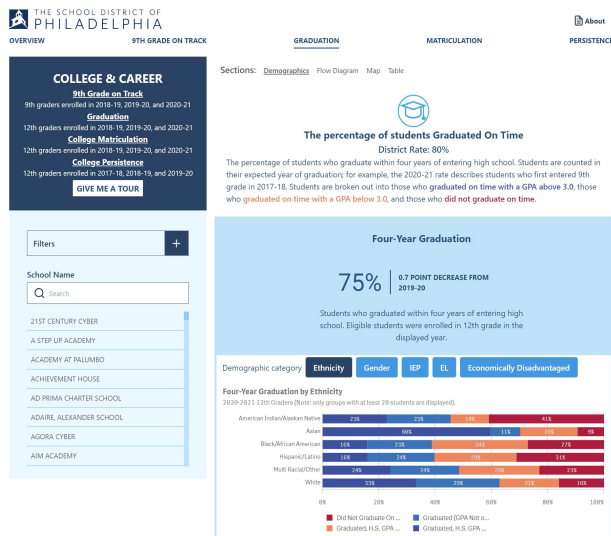
- Open data

(https://www.philasd.org/performance/programs/services/open-data/school-performance/#school_graduation_rates)

- School Profiles

(<https://dashboards.philasd.org/extensions/college-and-career-public/index.html#/grad>)

- Internal users: Graduation and matriculation app.



+ District Graduation Rate

- School Graduation Rates

This longitudinal open data file includes information about the graduation rates for schools broken out by: graduation rate type (four-year, five-year, or six-year), demographic category (EL status, IEP status, Economically Disadvantaged Status, Gender, or Ethnicity), and ninth-grade cohort. Students are attributed to the last school at which they actively attended in the respective graduation window, which ends on September 30 each year. Students are classified as EL, as having an IEP, and/or economically disadvantaged if they were designated as such at any point during their high school career.

This file includes information for all ninth-grade cohorts dating back to the 2010-2011 ninth grade cohort. Previously published graduation Open Data files for earlier cohorts can be found in the Zip file archive. Note: this data does not include Charter Schools.

Visit our [interactive College & Career data website](#) to further explore our 9th grade on track, high school graduation, college matriculation and persistence data, including breakdowns by subgroups, student grades, and type of college students enrolled in.

Last Refreshed: May 2022 | Next Update: Feb 2023

School Year	9th Grade Cohort Year	File Type	File Size
SY 2013-2014 through 2020-2021	SY 2010-2011 through 2017-2018	CSV	2.5 MB
SY 2009-2010 through 2012-2013	SY 2006-2007 through 2009-2010	Zip file	550 KB

Part 2: 9th Grade On-Track

Graduation Requirements

To graduate, SDP students must earn at least 23.5 credits (a typical one-year course is worth 1 credit), and a senior project.

They must also satisfy the following subject requirements:

- English (4 credits)
- Math (3 credits)
- Science (3 credits)
- Social Studies (3 credits)
 - Plus African American History (1 credit)
- Arts and Humanities (2 credits)
- World Language (2 credits)
- Physical Education (1 credit)
- Health Education (0.5 credits)
- Electives* (4 credits)

In 2003, Chicago Public Schools adopted the following metric for 9th grade success:

Freshman OnTrack:

A student is on track if he or she fails no more than one semester of a core course and earns at least 5 credits by the end of freshman year.

SDP's 9th Grade On-Track Definition

4 Core + 1 More = 9th Grade On-Track

A first-time 9th grader in SDP is considered On Track if he or she earns at least one credit in each of four core areas (English, math, science and social studies), plus one additional credit from any source.

9th Grade On-Track Status Predicts 4-Year Graduation

Graduation Rates For On- and Off-Track Students

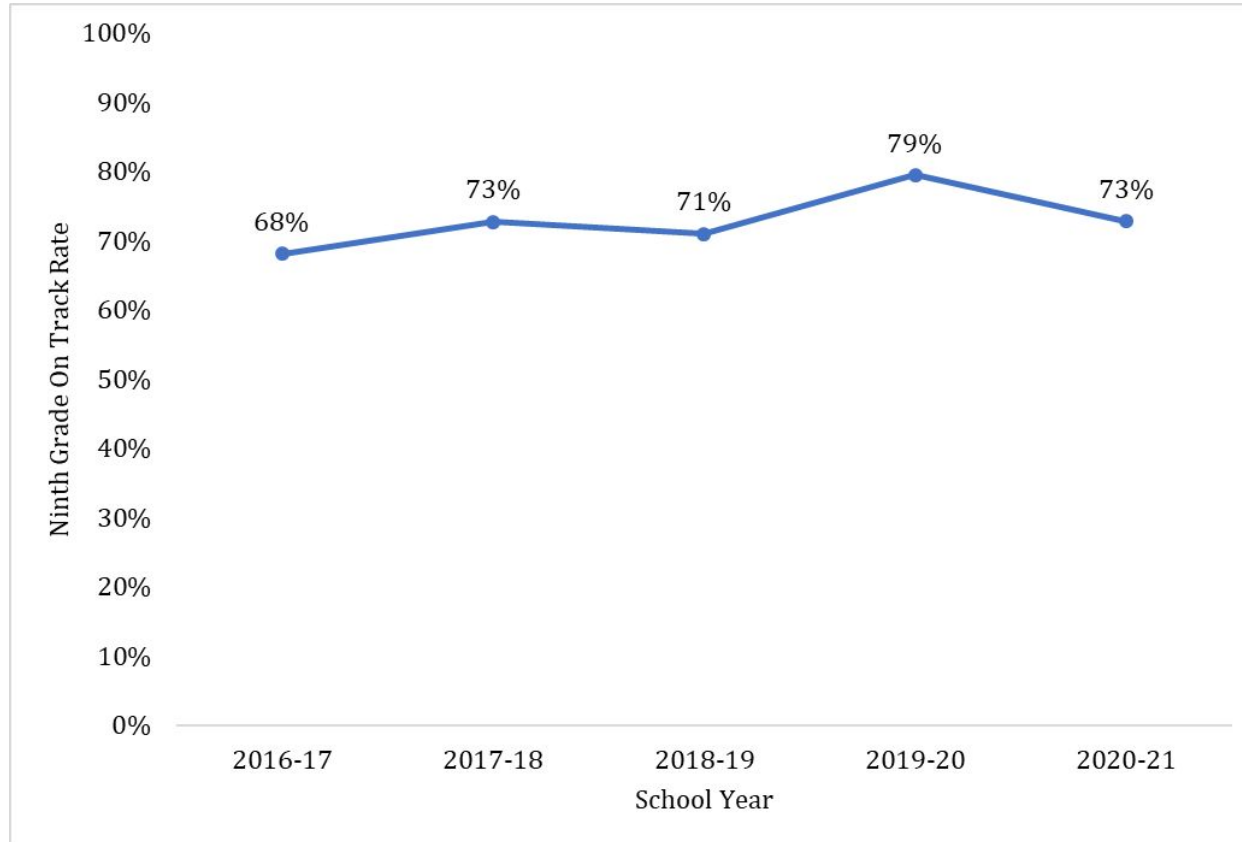


https://www.philasd.org/research/wp-content/uploads/sites/90/2018/05/On-Track-Focus-Brief_May-2018.pdf

9th Grade On-Track and PERC

- Collaborated with Philadelphia Education Research Consortium (PERC) to expand our understanding of 9GOT in Philadelphia
 - Identifying middle-grades predictors of finishing 9th grade on track
 - Understanding patterns and trends in On-Track rates across the city
 - Connecting 9th grade attendance and On-Track status
- <https://phledresearch.org/on-track-through-high-school/>

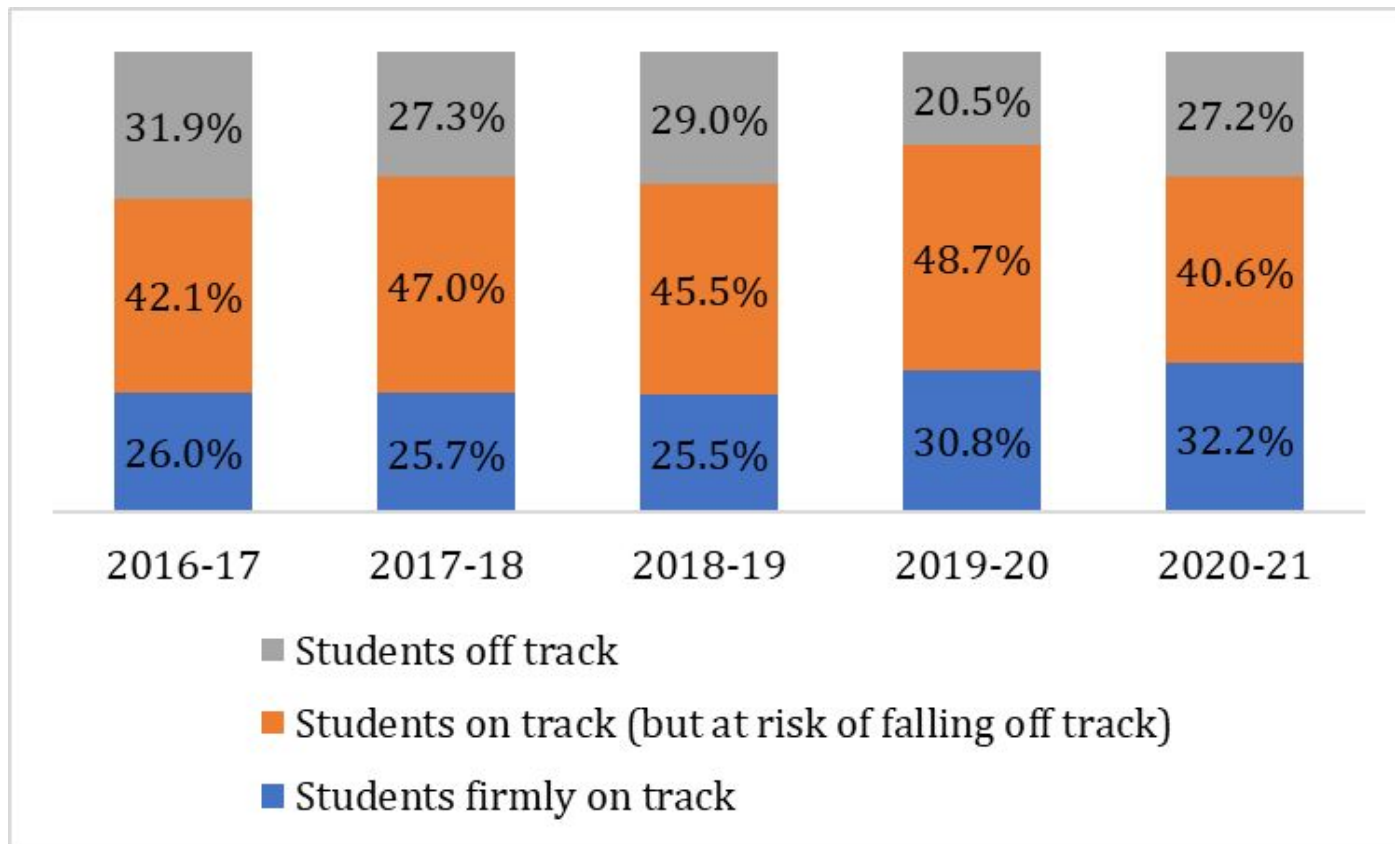
9th Grade On-Track Status: Recent Trends



Firmly On-Track

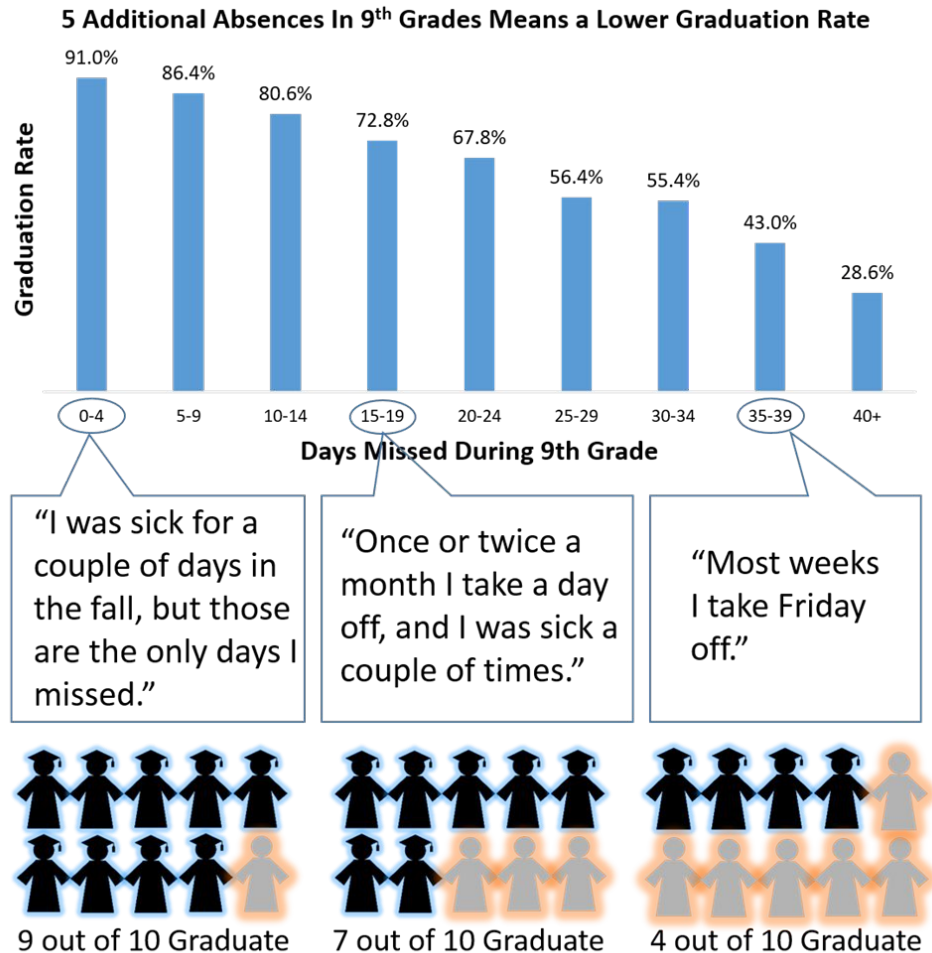
- Students are further characterized as *Firmly On Track* if they have grades of A or B in each of their 5 On-Track courses
- Provides a useful metric of students who are not only likely to graduate in 4 years, but are also demonstrating affirmative academic achievement
 - 9th grade course marks are associated with final GPA...
 - Which in turn is associated with postsecondary matriculation and persistence

9th Grade On-Track Status: Recent Trends



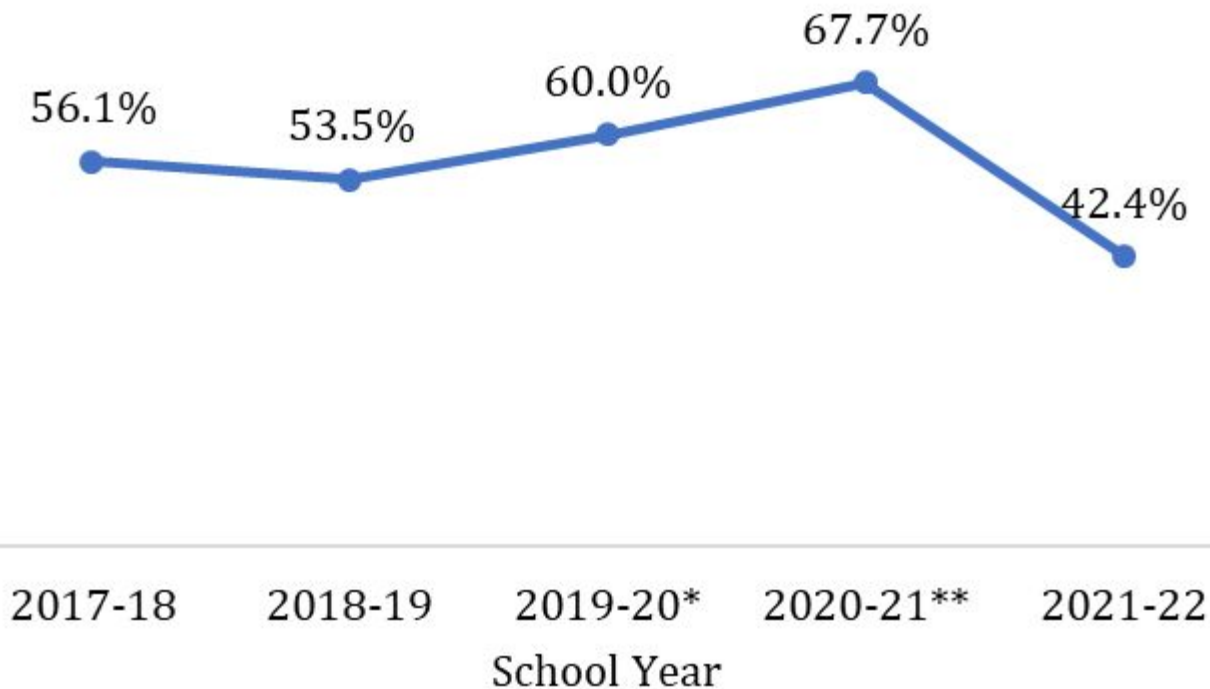
What about attendance?

- Yes! 9th grade attendance is another predictor of graduation rates - and an important data point that SDP tracks closely
- Grades and attendance both matter (though grades are consistently the stronger predictor of the two)



95% Attendance Rate Through April

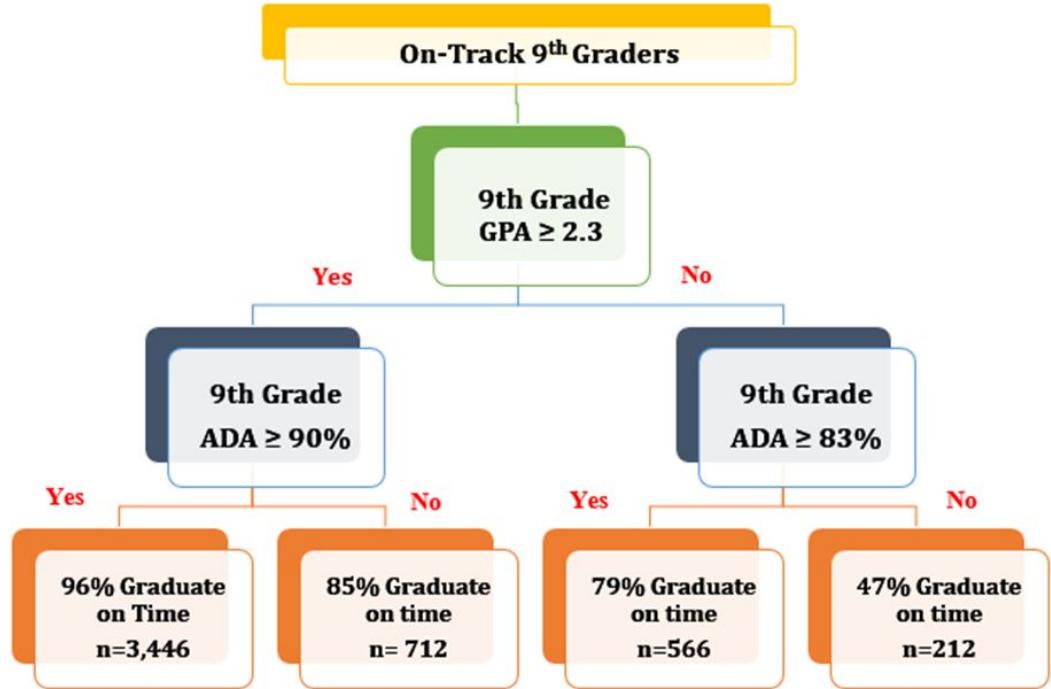
Percent of First-Time 9th Graders
Attending at Least 95% of Days



*Data through March **Learning was mostly remote

The interplay of grades and attendance is also evident when we look at what happens after 9th grade.

- Most On-Track 9th graders graduate on time - but what about those who do not?
- 9th grade course marks and attendance can help us identify students who might fall off track as 10th graders



Part 3: CTE Participation and Graduation Rates

What is CTE?

CTE stands for Career and Technical Education

- Students take a series of courses that prepare them for a career in one of 40+ occupational areas
- The prototypical program starts in 10th grade, and continues through 11th and 12th grades (though some programs vary from this pacing)
- Many CTE students have the opportunity to take a program-specific exam, which provides a career-relevant credential (NOCTI or NIMS)

More information available at: <https://www.philasd.org/cte/>

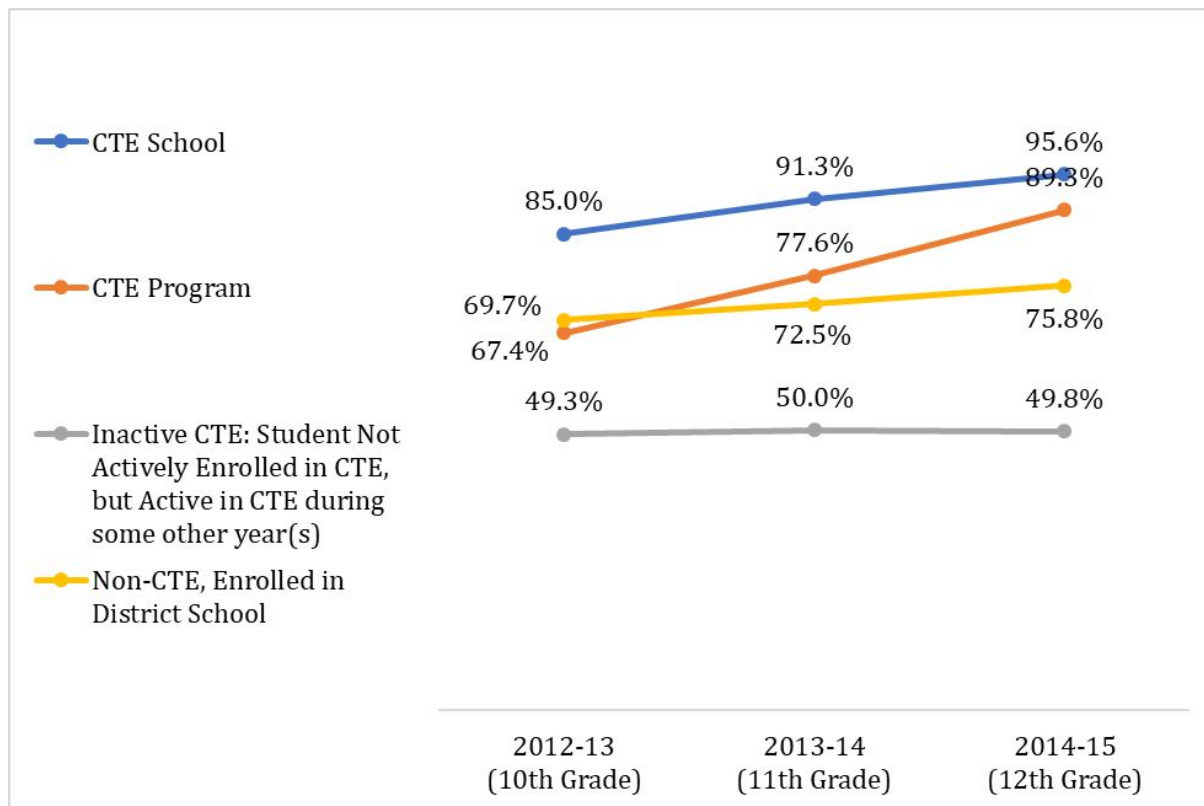
CTE Schools and Programs

- There are five comprehensive CTE schools
 - Students must apply to attend
 - All students enroll in a CTE program
- There are also 20+ additional high schools that offer one or more CTE programs which students may choose to pursue
- For a typical first-time 9th grade cohort, roughly 1 in 4 students will “touch” CTE at some point during their high school career...
 - And roughly 1 in 6 will be eligible to take the NOCTI/NIMS exams

Our research consistently shows that participation in CTE is associated with higher graduation rates

Graduation rates escalate for all students with each successive year.

This escalation is most pronounced for CTE Program students.



Why are CTE students more likely to graduate on time?

- Does CTE attract students with higher prior achievement or attendance?
 - Not supported by baseline data. On average, CTE students have, if anything, lower prior grades, test scores and attendance (though not dramatically)
- Does CTE participation still have a relationship to graduation rates after controlling for other factors known to be associated with graduation rates?

		Odds Ratios : Exp (B)			
	% of students	Model I	Model II	Model III	Final Model
Student Demographics					
Econ. Disadvantaged	49.20%	.429**	.764**	.795*	.790*
Black/African American or Hispanic/Latinx	73.90%	.648**	0.927	0.946	0.926
Has IEP	13.70%	634.**	0.979	0.935	0.938
EL	7.80%	.664*	.675*	.675*	.664*
Male	48.50%	.539**	.541**	.541**	.531**
10th Grade Behavior					
ADA (mean)	88.30%		1.118**	1.078**	1.079**
ADA quadratic			1.001**	1.001**	1.001**
1 + Suspensions	18.30%		.482**	.756*	.784*
10th Grade Acad. Perf.					
Credit Balance (mean)	1.82			1.396**	1.384**
Credit Balance cubic				.999**	.999**
D/F in Math or English	40.00%			.501**	.494**
CTE Status					
CTE student	20.10%				1.359*
N= 7,129					
Pseudo R-square (Nagelkerke)		0.094	0.381	0.496	0.498
% correctly predicted		77.6	82.9	85.8	85.7
* p<.01 **p<.001					

*p<.01

- Participation in CTE is associated with higher graduation rates
- This association is found even when a variety of student characteristics are controlled for
- And has been replicated with multiple graduating cohorts*

Additional Resources

ORE Briefs & Reports on Graduation and CTE Programs

- [SDP Graduation Rate Definitions](#)
- Yearly Graduation Rate Briefs
 - [2019-20](#)
 - [2020-21](#)
- [9th Grade On-Track to College Matriculation](#)
- [CTE Cohort Analysis](#)

ERA Research & Data That Extends Past Graduation

- [Senior Exit Survey](#)
- [CTE Follow-up Survey](#)
- [Summer Melt](#)
- [Graduate Follow-up Survey](#)
- [Postsecondary Matriculation](#) and [Persistence](#)

PERC Research

- Focus Area: [On-Track Through High School](#)

Program Office Resources

- [College & Career Readiness](#)

Q&A

[Join our mailing list](#) to be notified when recordings are available and when webinars are scheduled. We also welcome your suggestions for future topics. Link in the chat!