Overview: 2021 Graduation Data

Graduation rates have remained steady
The statewide 4-year graduation rate was essentially flat from the Class of 2020 to the Class of 2021, with a slight decrease of 0.4% (a difference of about 300 students).

We have more graduates than ever before
Over the past several years, our 4-year graduating class has continued to grow alongside the percentage of students graduating. We had just over 70,000 graduates in the Class of 2021!

Some opportunity gaps are closing, while others persist
The graduation rate for Black/African American students in the Class of 2021 rose by 1.4% from the Class of 2020 to 77.7%. The rate for Asian students rose by 1.1% to 92.2%, and the rate for multilingual/English learners rose by 0.5% to 68.9%.

However, compared to the Class of 2020, some student groups experienced declines in graduation rates. The largest declines were seen by students identified as low-income (1.1% decline), Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander (2.0% decline), Two or More Races (2.1% decline), in foster care (2.1% decline), and American Indian/Alaska Native (2.7% decline).

Students are staying enrolled to earn their diploma, even past their fourth year
When comparing the Class of 2021 to the Class of 2020, students who are American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) experienced the largest decrease (-2.7%) in graduation rates (69.8% in 2020 compared to 67.1% in 2021). However, data show an increasing number of AI/AN students who didn’t graduate with their 4-year cohort are staying enrolled to complete their studies and earn their diploma. This is also true for students who are migratory – data show a 1.1% decline since last year in graduation rates for students who are migratory, but similar to students who are AI/AN, an increasing number of migrant students are continuing their studies.