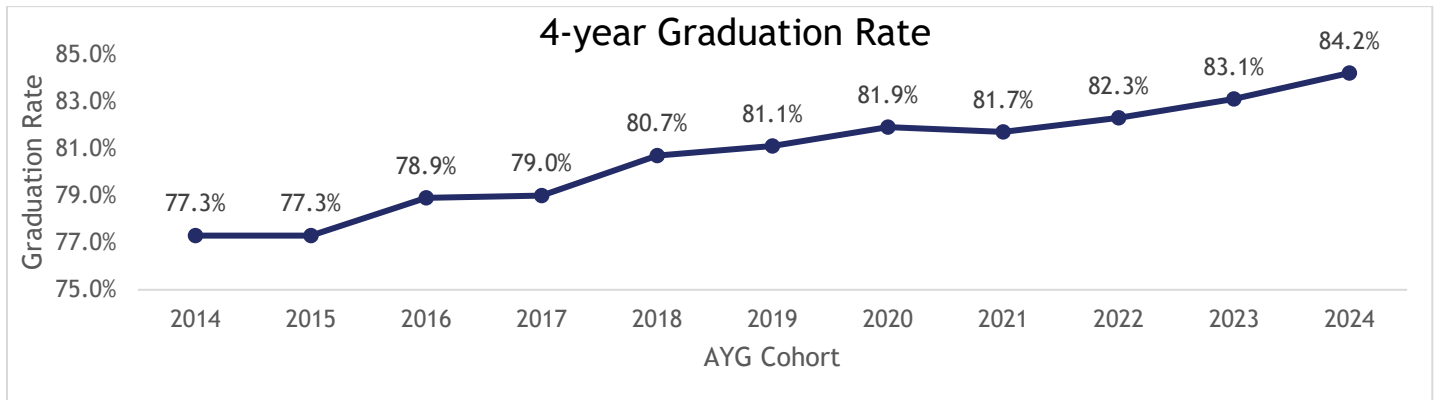


# 2023-24 Graduation and Completion Data Release Summary

## Graduation rates improved in 2023-24

Overall, graduation rates in 2023-24 improved in comparison to 2022-23 with the state rate reaching it's highest point ever. In addition, the improvement was widespread with the majority of districts (about 66%) with 4-year graduation rates that were the same or better than the prior year (122 of the 185 local education agencies or BOCES).



## Extended Graduation Rates

Improvements were also evident in extended graduation rates, although not for all cohorts. This included:

- The most recent 5-year and 6-year extended graduation rates increased compared to the previous year.
- The AYG 2021 cohort, which had a lower 4-year rate, continues to have lower extended year graduation rates than other graduation cohorts.

AYG	4-year	5-year	6-year	7-year
2023-2024	84.2%	available in 2024-25	available in 2025-26	available in 2026-27
2022-2023	83.1%	86.8%	available in 2024-25	available in 2025-26
2021-2022	82.3%	86.1%	87.1%	available in 2024-25
2020-2021	81.7%	85.7%	86.7%	87.1%



## Completion rates improved in 2023-24

1,018 students in the AYG 2024 cohort completed high school by receiving a certificate of high school completion or a High School Equivalency Diploma (HSED) instead of a regular high school diploma. Over the past 10 years, an additional 1.5% to 1.8% students complete high school in each AYG cohort. This has remained consistent even with the increase in graduation rates.

AYG	4-year	5-year	6-year	7-year
2023-2024	85.6%	available in 2024-25	available in 2025-26	available in 2026-27
2022-2023	84.6%	88.8%	available in 2024-25	available in 2025-26
2021-2022	84.1%	88.3%	89.5%	available in 2024-25
2020-2021	83.2%	87.7%	88.9%	89.6%

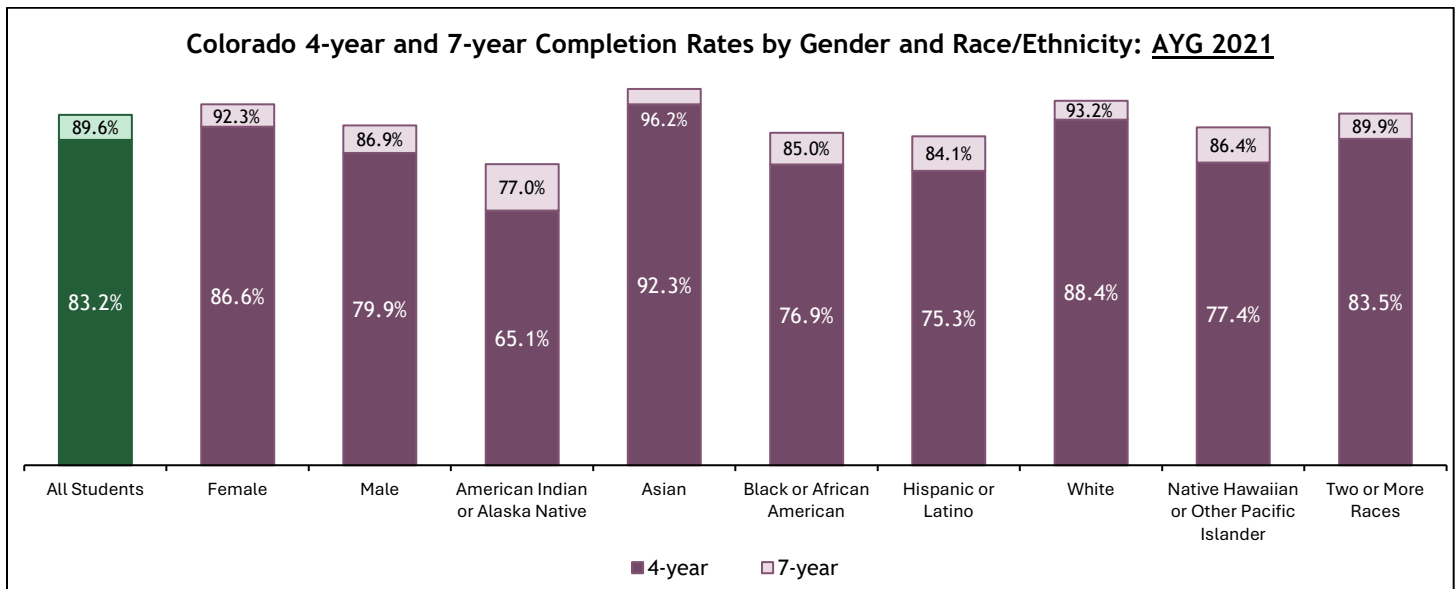
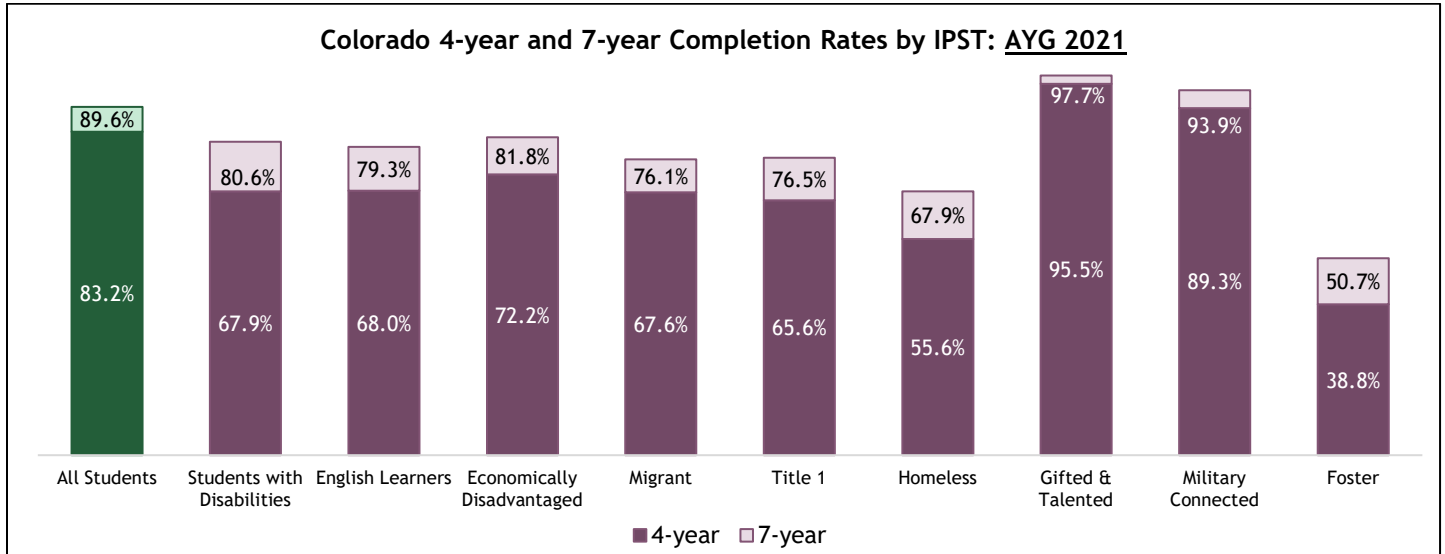
## 4-year graduation by student groups

Improvements were seen in most student subgroups including growth at a faster rate than the state (0.8% increase for all students) in many subgroups. However, substantial gaps remain. This is true by gender, race/ethnicity, and instructional program service type (IPST) groups.

Subgroup Category	AYG 2023	AYG 2024	Rate Change from Prior Year
Female	86.0%	86.6%	+0.6%
Male	80.3%	81.8%	+1.5%
Non-Binary	N/A	90.0%	N/A
American Indian or Alaskan Native	68.0%	69.9%	+1.9%
Asian	92.6%	93.2%	+0.6%
Black or African American	78.6%	78.3%	-0.3%
Hispanic or Latino	76.1%	77.3%	+1.2%
White	88.0%	89.1%	+1.1%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	70.9%	69.5%	-1.4%
Two or More Races	83.5%	85.0%	+1.5%
Students with Disabilities	69.3%	71.9%	+2.6%
English Learner	69.4%	70.7%	+1.3%
Economically Disadvantaged	73.3%	76.4%	+3.1%
Migrant	67.2%	68.0%	+0.8%
Title 1	68.2%	68.7%	+0.5%
Homeless	58.0%	61.6%	+3.6%
Gifted and Talented	95.4%	95.9%	+0.5%
Military Connected	90.4%	88.8%	-1.6%
Foster	36.2%	40.4%	+4.2%

## 7-year completion by student groups

When given more time to graduate or complete high school, many students are more successful. When comparing the most recent 7-year rates (7-year completion rate for AYG 2021 to the 4-year completion rate for AYG 2021), additional students in each group graduate by their 7<sup>th</sup> year. In addition, with this additional time, some gaps between student groups narrow but not at a high enough rate to close the gaps.





## Additional analysis/data trends

When analyzing graduation and completion data, a few other notable trends appear in the data:

- The AYG 2021 cohort was the first cohort to show a lower 4-year graduation rate than the previous cohort. This trend has continued into the 5-, 6-, and 7-year rates. These students were in their 3<sup>rd</sup> year of high school during the 2019-20 school year when the COVID-19 pandemic began. It appears they were the most impacted by the interruptions to their high school career in the 2019-20 and 2020-21 school years.
- Some regions of the state have higher 4-year graduation rates than others. Districts in the North Central, Northwest, and Metro regions had higher 4-year graduation rates than the state in the past three years. Districts in the Pikes Peak, Northeast, and not affiliated with a region show a substantial gap between their 4-year graduation rates and the state for the past four years.

## Definitions

- **Graduate:** A student who finishes their education with a high-school diploma.
- **Completer:** A student who finishes their education with a certificate of completion or a High-School Equivalency Diploma (HSED).
- **Anticipated Year of Graduation (AYG):** The year a student is expected to graduate based upon the year they enter high school for the first time. Students are assigned an unchanging AYG when they enter ninth grade by adding three years to the school year they entered ninth grade. AYG is represented by the 4-digit Spring semester of a year (e.g. 2023-2024 is AYG 2024).
- **AYG Cohort:** Students with the same AYG are grouped together to create the AYG Cohort used in graduation and completion rate calculations.
- **Graduation Rate:** Number of graduates divided by the number of students with the same assigned AYG (AYG Cohort).
- **Completion Rate:** Number of graduates and completers divided by the number of students with the same assigned AYG (AYG Cohort).

## Resources

- [CDE's Office of Dropout Prevention and Student Re-engagement](#) supports programs, identifies resources, and facilitates learning sessions focused on evidence-based practices to improve attendance, student engagement and connections to learning.
- [CDE's Office of Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness](#) supports programs and strategies that support student access to career-connected learning options.
  - [Colorado's Graduation Guidelines information.](#)
- [CDE's Data Services team](#) collects and publishes annual graduation/completion data.