



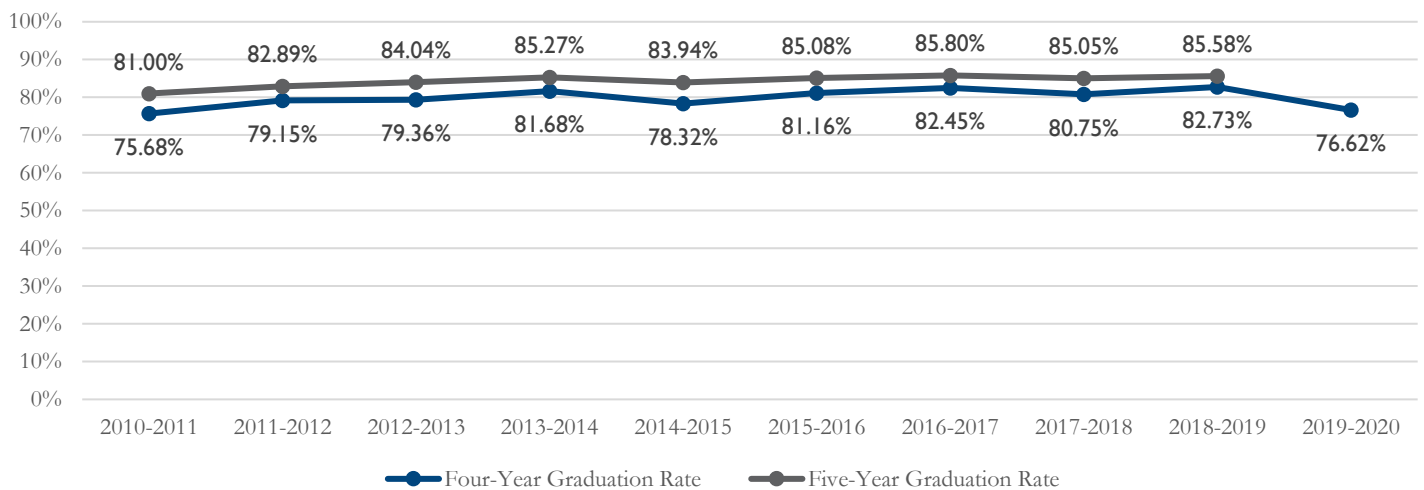
# Graduation and Dropout Rate Calculations and Trends: 2019-2020

## Graduation Rate

**Four-Year Graduation Rate:** Iowa’s graduation rate is a cohort calculation. The four-year cohort graduation rate measures the percent of students in a ninth-grade cohort that graduate with a regular diploma in four years or less. The four-year cohort graduation rate is calculated for the class of 2020 by dividing the number of students in the cohort who graduate with a regular high school diploma (numerator) in four years or less by the number of first-time ninth-grade students enrolled in the fall of 2016. As high school students transfer in and out of schools, they are added to or subtracted from the calculation.

**Five-Year Graduation Rate:** The methodology for calculating the five-year cohort graduation rate is a process to determine the year five high school outcomes for non-graduates included in the four-year cohort graduation rate from the preceding year (class of 2019). As such, the four- and five-year cohort graduation rates share the same cohort of students in common, all of whom started grade nine at the same time and were expected to graduate on-time four years later. Unlike the four-year cohort, the five-year cohort is not adjusted by adding to subtracting students who transferred in or out of schools during year five. Rather, the five-year cohort is largely held constant in year five to reduce artificial fluctuations in the five-year cohort graduation rate based solely on cohort adjustments to the denominator (transfers in, transfers out, and removals) that are allowed in the four-year rate.

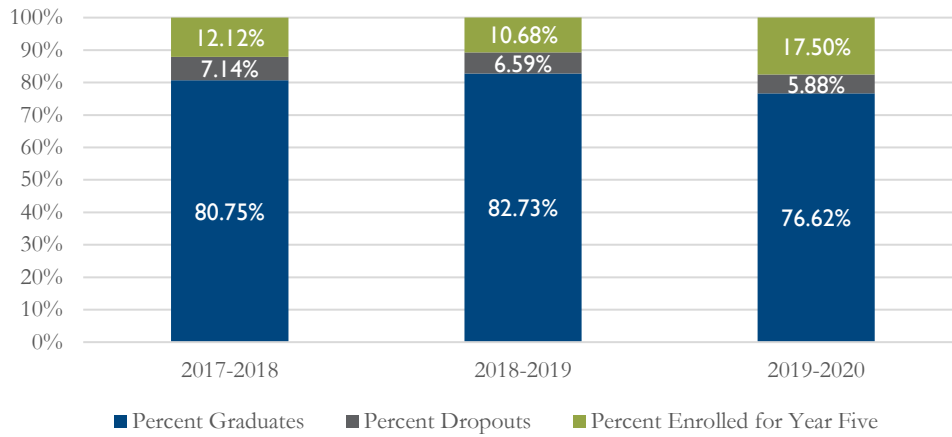
**DMPS Cohort Graduation Rate Trend**



School Year (four-year graduation year)	Cohort Size	Four-Year Graduates	Four-Year Graduation Rate	Five-Year Graduates	Five-Year Graduation Rate
2010-2011	2,011	1,522	75.68%	1,629	81.00%
2011-2012	1,923	1,522	79.15%	1,594	82.89%
2012-2013	1,923	1,526	79.36%	1,616	84.04%
2013-2014	1,960	1,601	81.68%	1,673	85.27%
2014-2015	1,937	1,517	78.32%	1,626	83.94%
2015-2016	2,065	1,676	81.16%	1,757	85.08%
2016-2017	2,120	1,748	82.45%	1,819	85.80%
2017-2018	2,228	1,799	80.75%	1,895	85.05%
2018-2019	2,247	1,859	82.73%	1,922	85.58%
2019-2020	2,348	1,799	76.62%		

Analysis of 2019-20 four-year graduation rate compared to previous years shows an increase in students remaining enrolled as the source of the decrease in graduation rate. This aligns with the decreased opportunities for in-person credit recovery/attainment due to the pandemic environment.

### Breakdown of Graduation Cohorts



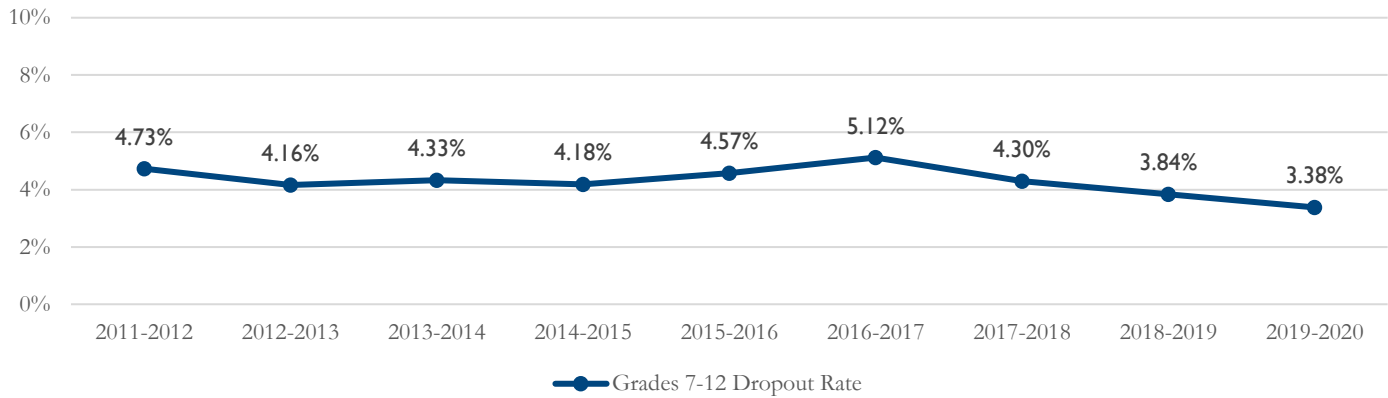
School Year	Cohort Size	Four-Year Graduates	Percent Graduates	Dropouts	Percent Dropouts	Enrolled for Year Five	Percent Enrolled for Year Five
2017-2018	2,228	1,799	80.75%	159	7.14%	270	12.12%
2018-2019	2,247	1,859	82.73%	148	6.59%	240	10.68%
2019-2020	2,348	1,799	76.62%	138	5.88%	411	17.50%

Among the 2019-20 non-graduates (dropouts and enrolled for year five), 19 students graduated at the end of semester one of the 2020-21 school year (which will include them as five-year graduates) and 246 students are still enrolled at DMPS high schools as of March 10, 2021. Using trend analysis of five-year graduation rates, it is expected that at least 150 students from the class of 2020 will graduate in year five, resulting in a five-year graduation rate of at least 83 percent.

# Dropout Rate

The grades 7-12 dropout rate is an annual calculation. The dropout rate is calculated for 2019-20 by dividing the number of students who dropped between certified enrollment count day (October 1, 2019) and the day before certified enrollment count day the following year (September 30, 2020) (and do not return to school within that timeframe) divided by the enrollment as of October 1, 2019.

## DMPS Grades 7-12 Dropout Rate



School Year	Number of Grades 7-12 Dropouts	Grades 7-12 Dropout Rate
2011-2012	619	4.73%
2012-2013	551	4.16%
2013-2014	579	4.33%
2014-2015	562	4.18%
2015-2016	626	4.57%
2016-2017	718	5.12%
2017-2018	612	4.30%
2018-2019	553	3.84%
2019-2020	485	3.38%

Annual dropout rates for DMPS are at an all-time low since the state of Iowa started calculating dropout rates from Certified Enrollment count date (October 1) to the day before Certified Enrollment count date (September 30) of the next year. The decrease in DMPS dropouts can be attributed to our multiple modalities for re-engagement/enrollment at the high school level (Virtual Campus, Flex Academy at each high school, and the expansion of Academic Pathways at Kurtz).