



Strategic Goal 1
Academic Achievement
Objective D: Graduation Rate

About the cohort Graduation Rate

Since the 2002-03 school year, the Georgia Department of Education (GADOE) has published state, district, and school-level graduation rates. These graduation rates have historically relied on a calculation method commonly known as the “leaver” formula. This method calculates the graduation rate by dividing the number of students earning a regular diploma by the total number of exiting 12th graders plus the number of students who dropped out over the four most recent years.

On April 10th, 2012, GADOE published a new graduation rate for SY 2010-11 based on the cohort calculation method that the United States Department of Education now requires all states to use. This cohort formula tracks individual students from the date of 9th grade entry in order to determine whether they earn a regular diploma within four years. This four-year time limit to complete graduation requirements is one of the primary differences between the cohort and leaver calculation methods.

Objective

To increase the district graduation rate utilizing the cohort-based formulas as reported by the Georgia Department of Education (GADOE) and the leaver rate as reported by SCCPSS.

Target

By 2014, the District Cohort Graduation Rate will be at 70% or higher.
By 2014, the District Leaver Graduation Rate will be at 80%.

SY 2012-13 – Cohort Graduation Rate: Key Points

- Under the new cohort-based formula, the SCCPSS graduation rate is 69.8%
- Cohort-based graduation rates among SCCPSS schools ranged from 54.3% to 99.5%. Five schools (Jenkins, Johnson, Islands, New Hampstead, and Savannah Arts) achieved the 2014 target of 70%.
- The district’s graduation rate has increased by 5.4 percentage points over last year.

Leaver and Cohort Graduation Rate

	Leaver Rate				Calculation Change	Cohort Rate			
	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11		2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	1-Yr Chg.
State	75.4	78.9	80.8	80.9		67.4	69.7	71.5	1.8
Comp Group*	72.0	75.5	76.8	76.6		59.6	58.6	61.6	3.0
SCCPSS	63.9	72.2	77.5	77.7		54.4	63.3	69.8	6.5
Beach	49.5	65.7	64.3	73.3		51.9	55.4	64.7	9.3
Groves	56.9	69.6	75.5	80.3		51.5	62.9	54.3	-8.6
Islands**	na	na	na	93.5		82.5	70.0	79.3	9.3
New Hampstead	na	na	na	na		na	na	73.8	na
Jenkins	67.0	73.3	80.9	77.0		58.1	68.3	79.1	10.8
Johnson	67.5	74.8	76.1	73.1		53.3	62.2	73.7	11.5
Savannah Arts	99.4	98.9	100.0	100.0		100.0	99.5	99.5	0
SHS - Law**	na	na		86.7		56.5	na	na	na
SHS - Liberal Arts**	na	na	72.3	68.7		51.9	59.7	62.7	3.0
Windsor	67.0	74.6	81.3	75.6		52.7	62.6	68.9	6.3

*Comparison group of demographically similar districts include the following: Clarke, Clayton, DeKalb, Dougherty, Liberty, Muscogee, Richmond, Spalding, Troupe, & Atlanta Public Schools.

**School with less than four years of student data.

Leaver graduation rate calculated locally from individual student level data provided by GADOE.

Na – School not in existence

■ Not reported; < 10 students

■ At/above 2014 Target

■ Posted one year gains

5-Year Cohort Graduation Rate

	Cohort Rate: 5-Yr Ext.		
	2010-11	2011-12	1-Yr Chg.
State	69.9	71.6	1.7
Comp Group	61.8	61.6	-0.2
SCCPSS	56.9	65.7	8.8
Beach	54.9	60.4	5.5
Groves	53.5	62.1	8.6
Islands	84.2	74.8	-9.4
New Hampstead	na	na	na
Jenkins	59.5	70.4	10.9
Johnson	55.5	63.5	8.0
Savannah Arts	100.0	99.5	-0.5
SHS - Liberal Arts	52.7	58.7	6.0
Windsor	52.7	64.1	11.4

Graduation Rate by Subgroups – SY 2013 4-Year Cohort

Subgroups	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	1 Yr Chg
Asian	71.7	89.6	83.9	-5.7
Black	51.8	61.6	66.9	5.3
Hispanic	52.9	52.2	52.3	0.1
White	60.1	66	76.1	10.1
Multi-Racial	53.0	65.3	72.5	7.2
Students With Disability	22.3	24.8	35.5	10.7
English Learners	28.0	43.8	48.6	4.8
Economically Disadvantaged	52.5	59.5	65.1	5.6

At/above 2014 Target
 Posted one year gains

Graduation Rate by Subgroups – SY2012 5-Year Cohort

Subgroups	2011-12
Asian	89.8
Black	64.1
Hispanic	55.8
White	68.5
Multi-Racial	71.6
Students With Disability	30.2
English Learners	48.5
Economically Disadvantaged	63.0