

Graduation Component Technical Documentation



Traditional District and School
Report Cards

2024-2025 School Year



Department of
Education &
Workforce

Revision History

The revision history section provides a means for readers to easily navigate to the places where updates have occurred from prior years. Significant changes and updates are indicated through underlined blue text for additions and red text with strikethroughs for deletions. Minor changes- such as typos, formatting and grammar corrections are not marked.

Date	Effective	Description
<u>10/6/2024</u>	FY25	Updates for FY25

[OHIO REVISED CODE](#) and [OHIO ADMINISTRATIVE CODE](#) require districts to report data to EMIS and to verify and approve all EMIS data. It should be reviewed and verified prior to the close of the [DIFFERENT DATA COLLECTIONS](#). This verification should include all relevant reports, including those in the Secure Data Center (SDC).

The Secure Data Center (SDC) is an interactive tool that allows districts to review data well before its final and the Report Cards are released. ***The SDC is the main resource districts should use to review Report Card Data but not inclusive please verify all relevant reports from EMIS.***

TABLE 1: BREADCRUMB TRAIL TO SECURE DATA CENTER REPORTS FOR DISTRICTS TO REVIEW

Component	Measure	SDC Breadcrumb Trail
Graduation Component		Report Portal > Secure Data Center > Local Report Card > District (or School) Local Report Card > Graduation
	<i>4- Year Graduation Rate</i>	Report Portal > Secure Data Center > Graduation > District (or School) 4-Year Longitudinal Graduation Rate
	<i>5-Year Graduation Rate</i>	Report Portal > Secure Data Center > Graduation > District (or School) 5-Year Longitudinal Graduation Rate

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Introduction

The Graduation Component is a crucial aspect of the Traditional District and School Report Cards, designed to evaluate and reflect the effectiveness of schools in guiding students towards successful completion of their high school education. This component assesses the proportion of students who achieve graduation within a specified timeframe. It is a significant indicator of a school's ability to prepare students for post-secondary opportunities and the workforce.

In the context of the Department's report card system, the Graduation Component serves as a measure of accountability, ensuring educational institutions provide the necessary support and resources for students to reach this pivotal educational milestone. It considers various factors that contribute to a student's journey towards graduation, including academic performance, attendance, and participation in college-preparatory coursework.

The technical documentation for the [2024-2025](#) school year outlines the methodologies used to calculate the Graduation Component rating, the inclusion criteria for student data, and the performance benchmarks that schools are expected to meet. By adhering to these guidelines, schools can focus on strategies that promote higher graduation rates and, consequently, foster long-term success for their students.

Business Rules

DETERMINING STUDENTS INCLUDED IN THIS COMPONENT

Both measures evaluate Adjusted Graduation Cohort students. The Four-Year Adjusted Graduation Cohort is the prior year adjusted graduation cohort. The Five-Year Adjusted Graduation Cohort is the two years prior adjusted graduation cohort. The definitions, business rules, and inclusion criteria related to the Adjusted Graduation Cohort can be found in the [Understanding Student Placement for Ohio's Differentiated Accountability Systems](#) technical document.

The graduation rates on the report card always lag by one year to include summer graduates. To be considered a "summer graduate" a student must have a diploma date at least one day **before** 50% or more of the district's schools are educating students for the following school year (according to the school calendar). This cutoff date determines the year of graduation.

For example: The students in the [2024](#) cohort who graduated in the summer of [2024](#), the cutoff date is the day **before** a majority (more than 50%) of district's schools are educating students for the [2024-2025](#) school year (according to the school calendar). A student who graduates on or before the cutoff date is considered a [2024](#) graduate. A student who graduates after the cutoff date is considered a [2025](#) graduate. Note that each district creates its own calendar, so the cutoff dates will vary based on when the district "opens" the schools for the [2024-2025](#) school year.

- The full academic year criteria **do not** apply to the graduation rate. Students are assigned to the **last** school and district where they are enrolled.

- If a district has only one high school, the graduation rate for the high school may not be equal to the graduation rate for the district because some students may count in calculations only at the district level.
- Graduation rates are calculated for any school with grade 12 that offers a high school diploma, regardless of whether the school serves any other grades.
- High school students with an Individualized Education Program (IEP) that do not graduate by the end of their 4th year count as nongraduates within the graduation rate calculation. They are identified in two different ways.
 - a. Students who meet the requirements for graduation but defer their diplomas to continue receiving educational services are coded as "Grade 23".
 - b. Students who do not meet graduation requirements but continue working towards completion are coded as a grade other than 23.
- Students who are homeschooled and attend part time are treated like other public-school students. They will be included in the graduation rate if inclusion criteria are met. If the student does not intend to graduate from the district, report a withdrawal code of "43". This indicates the student transferred back to a home school. The student will be considered a "Transfer Out" in the calculation.

Four-Year Graduation Rate Measure Calculation

The four-year graduation rate calculation (using the numerator and denominator as described above) is the percentage of students in the Final Prior Year Adjusted Graduation Cohort who received a regular or honors diploma before the start of the current school year (including summer graduates).

To receive a score on the 4-Year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate measure, a school/district must have at least ten (10) accountable students in the Final Prior Year Adjusted Graduation Cohort. In cases where a school or district has fewer than ten unique students, the data will be masked, and the 4-Year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate won't be calculated.

- **Code Sections:** [Ohio Revised Code 3302.01\(G\)](#)
- **N-Size:** 10 accountable students
- **Graduation Cohort:** Final Prior Year Adjusted Graduation Cohort

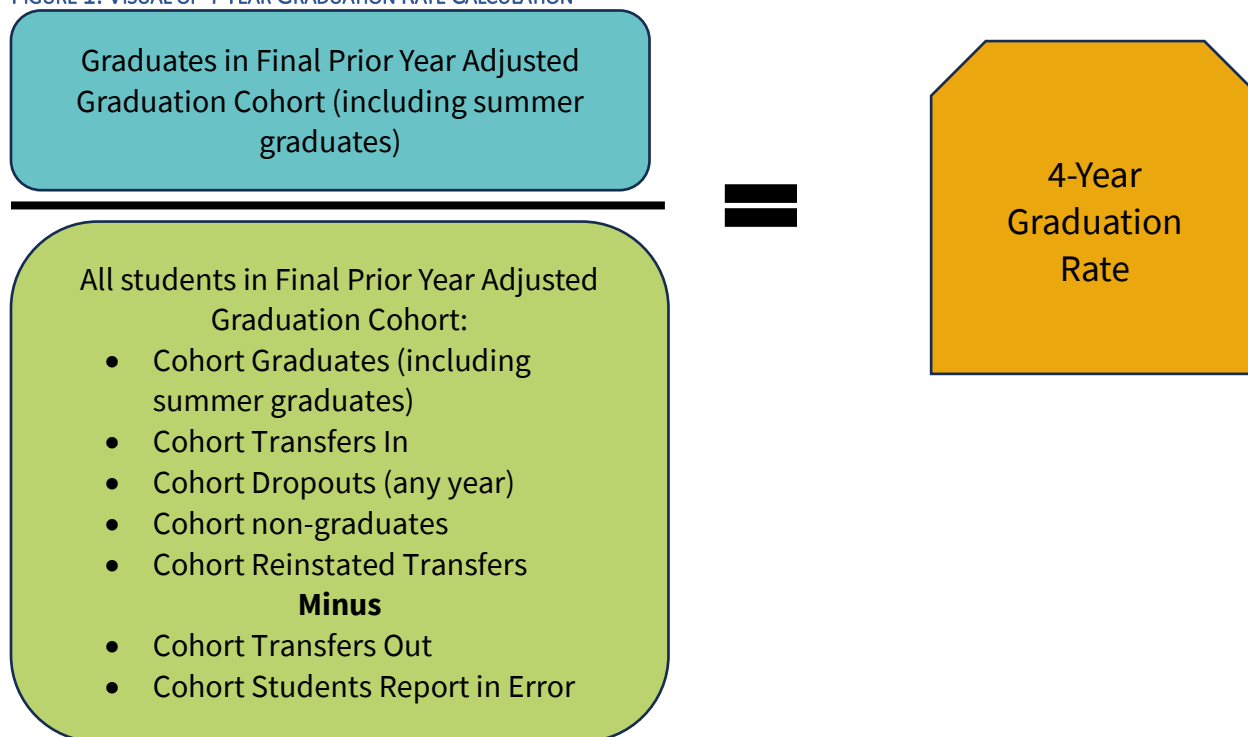
DENOMINATOR

The denominator includes all students in each school/district's Final Prior Year Adjusted Graduation Cohort. Students are included in the graduation cohort regardless of whether they graduated.

NUMERATOR

The numerator includes Final Prior Year Adjusted Graduation Cohort students who earned a regular or honors diploma before the cutoff date for the current school year.

FIGURE 1: VISUAL OF 4-YEAR GRADUATION RATE CALCULATION



Five-Year Graduation Rate Measure Calculation

The five-year graduation rate calculation (using the numerator and denominator described above) is the percentage of students in the Final Two Years Prior Adjusted Graduation Cohort who received a regular or honors diploma before the start of the current school year (including summer graduates).

To receive a score on the 5-Year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate measure, a school/district must have at least ten (10) accountable students in the Final Two Years Prior Adjusted Graduation Cohort. In cases where a school or district has fewer than ten unique students the data will be masked, and the 4-Year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate will not be calculated.

- **Code Sections:** [Ohio Revised Code 3302.01\(G\)](#)
- **N-Size:** 10 accountable students
- **Graduation Cohort:** Final Two Years Prior Adjusted Graduation Cohort

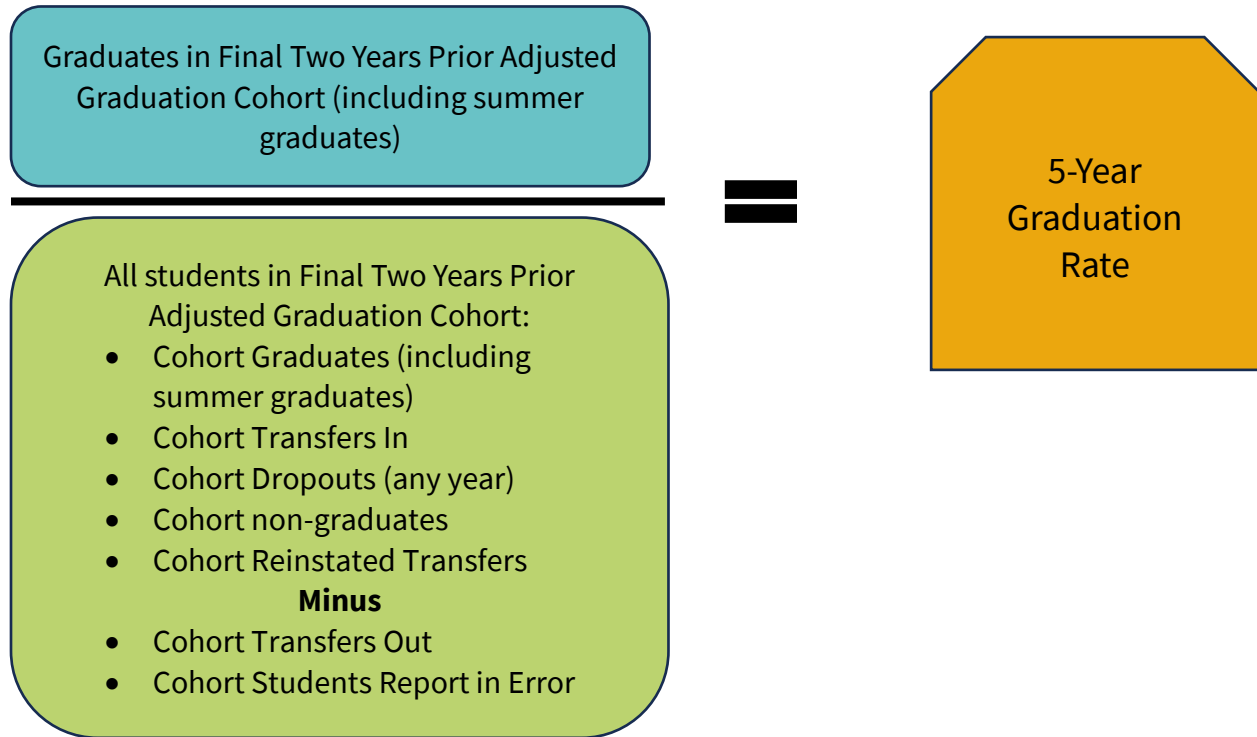
DENOMINATOR

The denominator includes all students in each school/district's Final Two Years Prior Adjusted Graduation Cohort. Students are included in the graduation cohort regardless of whether they graduated.

NUMERATOR

The numerator includes Final Two Years Prior Adjusted Graduation Cohort students who earned a regular or honors diploma before the cutoff date for the current school year.

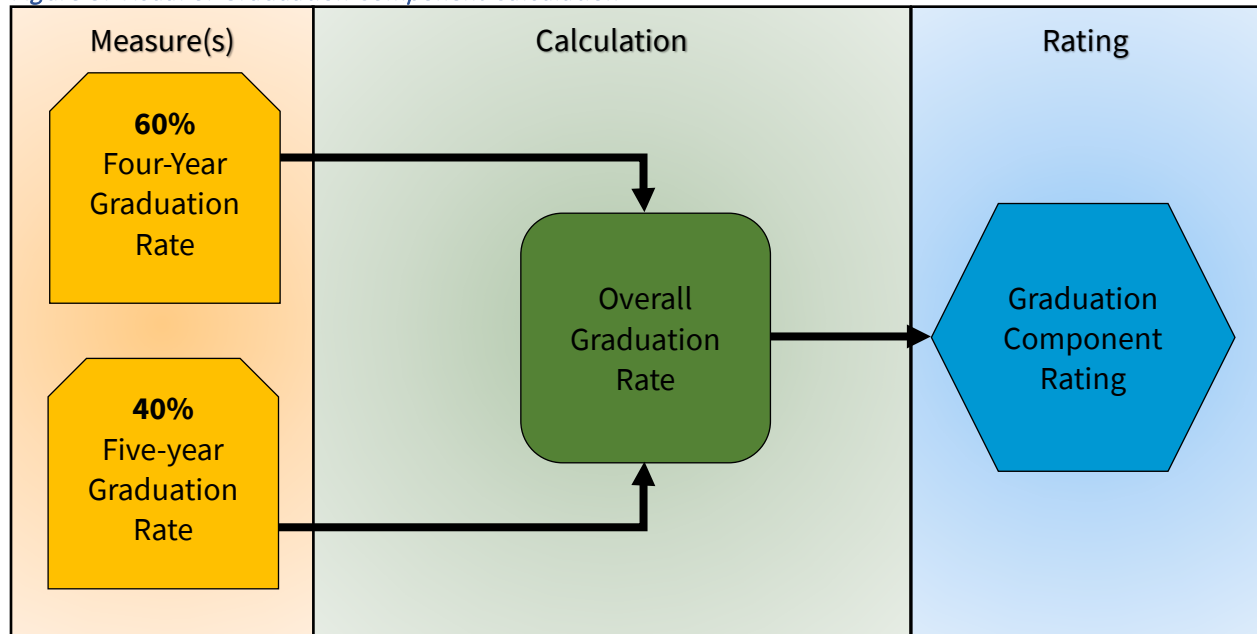
FIGURE 2: VISUAL OF 5-YEAR GRADUATION RATE CALCULATION



Graduation Component Rating and Descriptions

After both the **unrounded** four-year and five-year adjusted cohort graduation rates are calculated, they are weighted to create an overall graduation rate that is used to assign a rating to the Graduation Component. The four-year graduation rate is weighted at 60% of the overall graduation rate. The five-year graduation rate is weighted at 40% of the overall graduation rate.

Figure 3: Visual of Graduation Component Calculation



COMPONENT RATING SCALE AND DESCRIPTIONS

FIGURE 4: COMPONENT RATING SCALE AND DESCRIPTIONS

GRADUATION COMPONENT RATING		
Weighted Graduation Rate	Rating	Rating Description
Greater than or equal to 96.5%	5 Stars	Significantly exceeds state standards in graduation rates
Greater than or equal to 93.5% but less than 96.5%	4 Stars	Exceeds state standards in graduation rates
Greater than or equal to 90% but less than 93.5%	3 Stars	Meets state standards in graduation rates
Greater than or equal to 84% but less than 90%	2 Stars	Needs support to meet state standards in graduation rates
Less than 84%	1 Star	Needs significant support to meet state standards in graduation rates

Examples of Calculation

FIGURE 5: EXAMPLE 1

Measure	Weights	Weighted Percentage
4-Year Rate	97.6% x 60% weight	58.6%
5-Year Rate	96.4% x 40% weight	38.6%
Weighted Graduation Rate		97.1% = 5 Stars

Appendix A Inclusion Criteria (EMIS)

ADJUSTED GRADUATION COHORT

Students will count at the **LAST educating or sending district** for the following Measures/Indicators:

- 4-Year Graduation Rate of the Graduation Component on the Traditional Report Card
- 5-Year Graduation Rate of the Graduation Component on the Traditional Report Card

IF the students in the Education Management Information System (EMIS) with the following:

Student generates base FTE- See EMIS Validation and Reports Explanation on [FTE](#) for more detailed information

OR

District Relationship Element (FS140) = 1 AND Sent Reason Element (FS200 or FS230) = EX or NP

OR

Sent Reason Element (FS200 or FS230) = CR, CT, JV, MR, OS, PI, PS or SE

NOTE: *Full Academic Year* is **NOT** a requirement.

Appendix B: Federal Graduation Rate

The Federal Graduation Rate differs from the State Graduation Rate in terms of students included in the numerator. The denominators are the same; students are included in the denominator of the 4-year rate based on the first time they entered 9th grade in an Ohio school.

Federal guidelines require that students in the numerator (graduates) must meet one of the [state-defined standard graduation pathways](#) open to all students. Federal requirements preclude students who earn a diploma via alternative means, such as through Special Education exemptions, or alternate End of Course tests, from being included in the numerator of the Federal Graduation Rate if they do not otherwise meet another traditional graduation pathway.

The difference lies in how they account for students with disabilities:

1. **Ohio Graduation Rate:**

- Measures the percentage of students successfully completing high school with a regular diploma within four or five years.
- State-level calculation.

2. **Federal Graduation Rates:**

- Also measures the percentage of students graduating within four years.
- Excludes students with disabilities who did not meet course requirements due to modifications or exemptions in their Individualized Education Program (IEP)

Both rates aim to assess graduation success, but their methodologies differ slightly.