

# 2019-2020 School Performance Reports and 2020 Graduation Rates

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**New Jersey State Board of Education Meeting  
April 7, 2021**



# School Performance Reports

The School Performance Reports can be used as a tool to help evaluate whether all students have equitable access to high quality education. Use these reports to:

- **Learn more** about a school or district
- **Start conversations** with school community members
- **Engage** with your school communities to identify where schools are doing well and where they can improve



# School Performance Reports: COVID-19 Impact

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and a federal waiver that was granted to all fifty states, some data is not available for the 2019-2020 school year. Most available data has been affected by COVID-19 in some way and the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) recommends caution in comparing 2019-2020 data to data from prior or future school years.

The 2019-2020 reports will not include the following data elements:

- Statewide assessment participation and performance (New Jersey Student Learning Assessment (NJSLA), Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM), ACCESS for ELLs)
- Student growth data
- Chronic absenteeism rates
- Progress toward English language proficiency
- ESSA Summative ratings or indicator scores
- Status in meeting annual targets or standards for ESSA indicators

# 2019-2020 Reports Data

The 2019-2020 School Performance Reports will include the following data:

Category	Includes
<b>Demographics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Student enrollment and demographics</li></ul>
<b>College and Career Readiness</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PSAT, SAT, and ACT participation and performance</li><li>• Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) course and test information</li><li>• Dual Enrollment participation</li><li>• Course Participation (Math, Science, Social Studies/History, World Languages, Computer Science, Arts)</li><li>• Career and Technical Education (CTE)</li><li>• Seal of Biliteracy</li></ul>
<b>Graduation and Postsecondary</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Graduation rates and pathways to graduation</li><li>• Dropout rates</li><li>• College enrollment</li></ul>
<b>Climate and Environment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Discipline</li><li>• Learning Environment (School day information)</li></ul>
<b>Staff</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Teacher and administrator experience, retention, demographics, attendance</li><li>• Staff to student ratios</li></ul>
<b>Per-Pupil Expenditures</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• School level Per-Pupil Expenditures</li></ul>
<b>Accountability</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Schools identified for comprehensive and targeted support and improvement</li></ul>
<b>Narrative</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Highlights, achievements, and other important information from the district</li></ul>



# Changes to 2019-20 Reports

The 2019-2020 reports include changes that respond to stakeholder feedback and the COVID-19 pandemic:

- **New report design with** improved visuals and new navigational tools
- **Additional data** about graduation cohorts to provide more information about students who do not graduate
- **New resources** to help explain the impact of COVID-19 on the availability of data in the reports.
- **A new narrative field, “Learning During COVID-19”**, to give districts an opportunity to share information on how they responded to the COVID-19 pandemic.

# New Graduation Cohort Profiles

The new reports include graduation cohort profiles for the 2020 4-year cohort and the 2019 5-year cohort which show the percentage of students into the following categories:

- Graduates
- Continuing Students (students who are still enrolled)
- Non-Continuing Students (students who have dropped out or are no longer enrolled)

The tables include both school-wide and student group information and a statewide comparison.

# New “Learning During COVID-19” Narrative

A new “Learning During COVID-19” narrative category was added for the 2019-2020 reports, with suggested content including:

- Highlights of remote learning
- Updates to grades/grading policies
- Wellness for school community members
- Collaborative relationships forged to support students
- Technology impacts

This can be found in the narrative section of the reports, which gives districts the opportunity to share highlights, achievements, and other important information about programs, activities, and services that are offered. This narrative section is optional for districts.

# New Impact of COVID-19 Resource

NJDOE developed a new “Impact of COVID-19 on Data Availability” resource that will be released this year along with the School Performance Reports.

This resource gives an overview of what data is known to be missing or impacted as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

**2019-2020 School Performance Reports: Impact of COVID-19 on Data Availability (cont'd)**

**Data Element Status and Notes**

Section of the Reports	Data Elements	Status for 2019-2020	2019-2020 Notes
Demographics	Enrollment and Demographics	✓	
Student Growth	Median Student Growth Percentiles	✗	Statewide assessments were cancelled in spring 2020. <sup>1</sup> As a result, student growth percentiles were not calculated for 2019-2020 and this data is not available.
Academic Achievement	NJSLA/DLM Participation and Proficiency – English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science	✗	Statewide assessments were cancelled in spring 2020. <sup>1</sup> As a result, assessment data is not available for 2019-2020.
	Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) Participation		
	Progress toward English Language Proficiency English Language Proficiency Test (ACCESS for ELLs) – Participation and Performance		
College and Career Readiness	PSAT, SAT, and ACT Participation and Performance	!	National administrations of the SAT, PSAT, and ACT were cancelled in the spring and summer of 2020. As a result, 2019-2020 results may not be comparable to prior or future years.
College and Career Readiness	Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) Enrollment and Performance	!	College Board administered AP tests online in spring 2020 and students were able to take assessments from home. Additionally, the written components of the IB assessments were not able to be administered in the 2019-2020 school year. The IB program developed a reliable and valid score based upon the required assessed work during the two years of the courses to determine a final grade.
College and Career Readiness	Dual Enrollment	✓	
College and Career Readiness	Career and Technical Education (CTE) Participants and Concentrators	✓	

<sup>1</sup> March 2020 federal waiver: Approved by the United States Department of Education (USED) on March 27, 2020

[www.njschooldata.org](http://www.njschooldata.org) | [reportcard@doe.nj.gov](mailto:reportcard@doe.nj.gov) | Page 2



# Information Aligned to Key Initiatives

The School Performance Reports include data aligned to the following key initiatives in the state:

- **Computer Science for All**
  - The Computer Science Course Participation table includes the number of students in grades six through 12 enrolled in Computer Science courses and whether students are enrolled in Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), or Dual Enrollment courses in this area.
- **Diversify the Workforce**
  - The Teacher and Administrator Demographics table includes both the gender and race/ethnicity breakdown of students, teachers, and administrators with comparisons to the state overall.

# Digital Divide Data

- The School Performance Reports typically include student to device ratios collected through the NJTRAx survey.
- These ratios are not included in the 2019-2020 reports because a single device ratio would not give a full picture of the availability of devices and the changing nature of this information during the 2019-2020 school year.
- Instead, this year's report will include a link to school and district technology information collected through NJ SMART in November 2020, including:
  - Student Device Type (e.g. laptop, tablet), and
  - Student Device Owner (e.g. district provided, personal, shared).
- The reports also include a link to the [NJDOE Digital Divide webpage](#) that provides weekly updated state summaries on student device and connectivity needs.
  - As of March 3, 2021, 100% of districts reported that they have bridged the digital divide by reporting zero students currently needing a device or connectivity.



# More Supports Available than Ever Before

The NJDOE has developed a series of **optional resources** to support communities in understanding the reports, including:

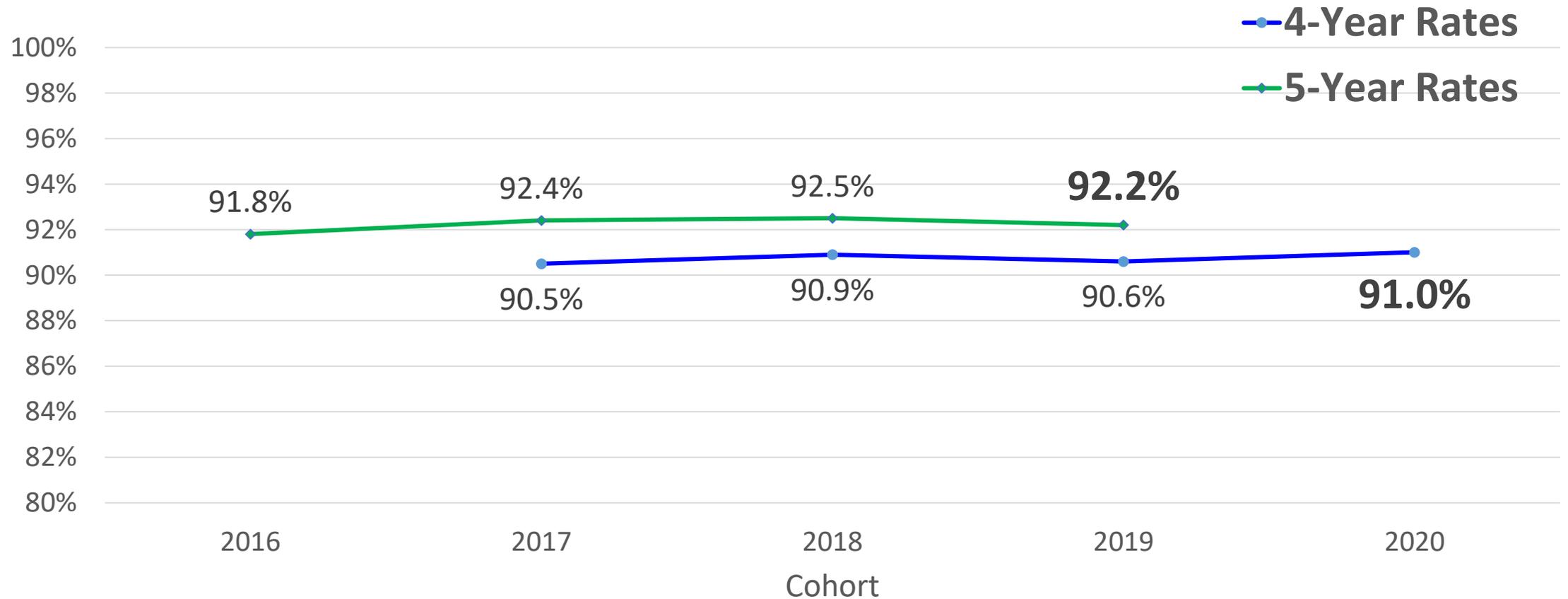
- A **sample letter** superintendents can send to their communities
- A **PowerPoint template** to present data
- **One-page guides** for administrators, educators, and community members to help communities understand and reflect on data
- A detailed **reference guide** explaining all the data in the reports
- **Guides to understanding** graduation rates and student growth
- A new **Impact of COVID-19** on data availability resource

Questions on these guides include:

- Without statewide assessment data or student growth data for 2019-2020, what district data can we use to monitor **student growth and performance**? How can we identify students that need additional support?
- How has the **student population changed**? Have our programs, policies, and instruction changed along with demographic shifts?
- Where are we meeting our **identified goals**? Where are we falling short? Why?

# 2020 Graduation Rate

The 2020 4-year graduation rate is 91.0% and the 5-year rate is 92.2%.



# Graduation Cohort Breakdown

The 2020 cohort has a higher percentage of graduates and a lower percentage of non-continuing students, compared to the 2019 cohort. The percentage of continuing students remained consistent.

Adjusted Cohort Breakdown	Cohort 2020 Count	Cohort 2020 Percentage	Cohort 2019 Count	Cohort 2019 Percentage
Graduates	96,084	91.0%	96,591	90.6%
Continuing students	4,336	4.1%	4,385	4.1%
Non-Continuing Students	5,219	4.9%	5,694	5.3%
<b>Adjusted Cohort Total</b>	<b>105,639</b>		<b>106,670</b>	

# Graduation Assessment Requirement Details

This table shows specifically how students in Cohort 2020 met graduation assessment requirements for ELA and mathematics.

Graduation assessment requirements were waived for any 12<sup>th</sup> grade student who was expected to graduate in the class of 2020, but as of March 18, 2020 had not yet met the graduation assessment requirements (Executive Order 117).

Pathway	ELA	Mathematics
Statewide Assessment	61.4%	58.1%
Substitute Competency Test	24.3%	23.9%
Portfolio Appeals Process	2.2%	3.1%
Alternative Requirements specified in IEP	5.0%	5.7%
Requirements waived under Executive Order 117	7.0%	9.1%

# Reports Release

School districts have had the opportunity to preview embargoed School Performance Reports and resources for the last two weeks.

Later today, NJDOE will release this year's School Performance Reports on the [School Performance Reports website](#), which reflect the 2019-20 school year and include:

- Detailed and Summary Reports for all public schools and districts
- Statewide detailed report
- Databases containing all the data in the School Performance Reports
- Supporting resource documents
- Translated Spanish versions of the reports