

Colorado’s 4-yr adjusted cohort graduation rate (ACGR) is lower than the U.S. Average in every category:

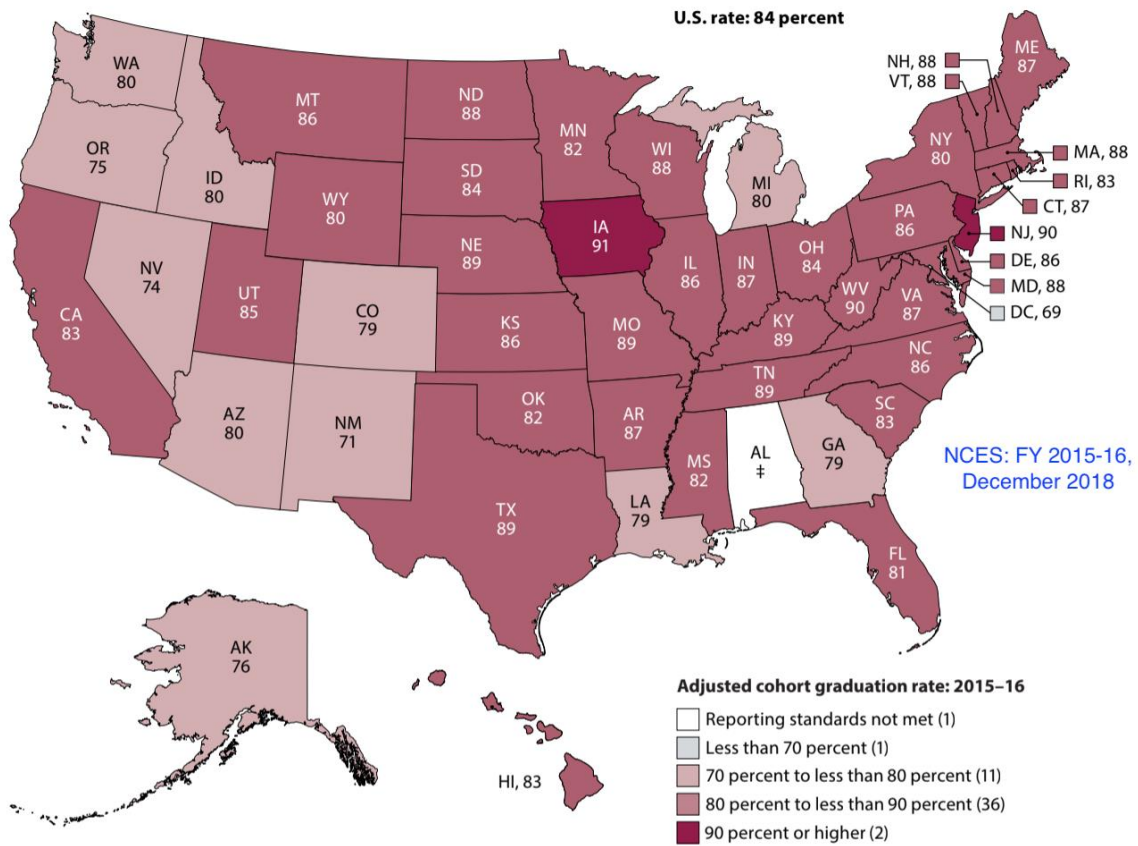
- All Students:* 5 percentage points (pp) lower than the U.S. Average
- White:* 4 pp lower
- Black:* 4 pp lower
- Hispanic:* 9 pp lower
- Asian/Pacific Islander:* 6 pp lower
- American Indian / Alaska Native:* 10 pp lower
- Students with disabilities:* 9 pp lower
- Limited English proficient:* 6 pp lower
- Economically disadvantaged:* 10 pp lower

Colorado’s 4-yr ACGR has trailed the U.S. average every year since 2010-11. Between 2010-11 and 2015-16, both the U.S. and Colorado ACGR have improved 5 percentage points. Colorado has not closed the gap with the U.S. average since the U.S. Department of Education began tracking ACGR in 2010-11.

Two recent articles of interest:

1. [Does money matter for schools? Why one researcher says the question is ‘essentially settled’](#) – Chalkbeat, December 2018.
2. [The school improvement gains nobody’s talking about](#) – FutureEd, December 2018

Figure 5.1. Adjusted cohort graduation rate (ACGR) of public high school students, by state: 2015–16



‡ Reporting standards not met. The Alabama State Department of Education indicated that their adjusted cohort graduation rate (ACGR) data was misstated. For more information, please see the following press release issued by the state: <https://www.alsde.edu/sec/comm/News%20Releases/12-08-2016%20Graduation%20Rate%20Review.pdf>.

NOTE: The adjusted cohort graduation rate (ACGR) is the percentage of public high school freshmen who graduate with a regular diploma within 4 years of starting 9th grade. Students who are entering 9th grade for the first time form a cohort for the graduating class. This cohort is “adjusted” by adding any students who subsequently transfer into the cohort and subtracting any students who subsequently transfer out, emigrate to another country, or die. The U.S. 4-year ACGR was estimated using the reported 4-year ACGR data from the 50 states and the District of Columbia. The Bureau of Indian Education and Puerto Rico were not included in the United States 4-year ACGR estimate. The graduation rates displayed above have been rounded to whole numbers. Categorizations are based on unrounded percentages.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, Consolidated State Performance Report, 2015–16. See table 5.1.