

6 Things to Know About Graduation Rate



What is graduation rate?



An average of the percent of students graduating within four years after entering ninth grade and the percent of students graduating within five or six years after entering ninth grade.

Why is graduation rate important?



Achieving a diploma is a major accomplishment and marks a significant milestone in a student's life. This performance measure sets an annual graduation target for the number of students graduating "on time" in Maine, as well as students graduating at a different but acceptable rate.

What is the annual graduation target?



The long-term goal for 4-year graduation rate is to have 90% of students graduate within 4 years after entering ninth grade. The long-term goal for the extended-year graduation rate is to have 92% of students graduate within five or six years of entering ninth grade.

Why is Maine tracking graduation rate?



The federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires that each state have an accountability system that includes graduation rate as an indicator of school progress and success.

Where does the data come from?



Graduation data is collected for all public-school students on an annual basis by the Maine Department of Education.

How will it look on the school report card?



The school as a whole will receive a performance measure related to individual student populations meeting the annual graduation target.