



COLORADO
Department of Education

Online Education Summary Report

Submitted to:

**State Board of Education
House of Representatives Education Committee
Senate Education Committee**

By:

**Office of Online and Blended Learning
Colorado Department of Education**

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Executive Summary

The *Online Education Summary Report* was produced in accordance with §22-30.7-103(3)(h) of the Colorado Revised Statute (C.R.S.). Per statute, the report is prepared every five years with past publications in 2019 and 2014. The report provides data pertaining to online schools and programs with available data for the school years 2019-20 through 2022-2023. The report is to be submitted to the Colorado State Board of Education and both Education Committees of the General Assembly.

Included in this report is information, to the extent available, about online schools and programs that were in operation for the school years 2019-20 through 2023-24. For online schools, this includes an analysis of data related to school performance levels in comparison to statewide performance levels, enrollment trends, mobility rates, attendance, truancy, and chronic absenteeism rates in comparison with state levels. This report summarizes data from several collections submitted by school districts to the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) and includes only online schools with an assigned school code. Online schools in Colorado are required to meet the same reporting requirements as all public schools and are subject to state and federal accountability processes.

Students that are enrolled in online programs (meaning a program within a larger school) are reported in the various data collections through their primary school of enrollment. Online programs do not have a school code; therefore, the data summarized in this report generally does not include students enrolled in online programs unless specifically noted.

Highlights and Notable Trends

- Beginning in the 2020–21 school year, the number of online schools increased, with the largest growth occurring in 2021–22, when nine new schools opened. While this increase is atypical, it reflects interest from many districts in offering permanent or expanded online learning options following the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Enrollment in online schools and programs increased 41.8 percent from 2019–20 to 2023–24. Much of this growth occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic, with a 42.7 percent increase between 2019–20 and 2020–21. In 2023–24, total student enrollment in online schools and programs reached 31,839 students, representing 3.48 percent of all K–12 public school students in Colorado.
- In the 2023-24 school year, 40.1 percent of online students attended one of seventeen multi-district online schools that were contracted with an Education Service Provider (ESP), which is a for-profit organization that an online school may contract with for educational services such as design and implementation of an education program, online class management, employment of teachers, enrollment services, financial services, and other instructional and operational services.
- In the 2023-24 school year, 26.6 percent of online students attended an online school managed under a charter contract.
- Three authorizers account for more than half (52.0 percent) of statewide online student enrollment. District 49, which authorizes three multi-district online schools, had the largest share with 6,757 students (21.2 percent) in 2023–24. The Byers 32J School District had the second-largest enrollment with 5,917 students (18.6 percent), followed by Education ReEnvisioned BOCES with 3,874 students (12.2 percent).
- Online schools have higher student mobility than non-online schools, with rates of 32.0 percent and 10.4 percent, respectively, in 2023–24.

- The number of online schools on Performance Watch has decreased since 2019. In 2023–24, 6.3 percent of online schools were on Performance Watch, a decline from 46 percent in 2019, as reported in the previous publication.
- Online schools assigned an Insufficient State Data (ISD) plan type increased from 31 percent (15 schools) in 2019 to 57.1 percent (36 schools) in 2023. This rating is largely due to low student participation in state assessments.
- Online school participation in state assessments declined by approximately 30 percentage points from 2018–19 to 2022–23, compared to a 5 percentage point decline in non-online schools, limiting the ability to draw reliable conclusions about student performance trends. The lack of participation in state assessments presents challenges with making reliable conclusions on performance trends for students in online schools.
- Student performance on CMAS assessments remains lower in online schools than in non-online schools, consistent with prior reports. In 2022–23, mean scale scores for participating students were 13 points lower in ELA (729 vs. 742) and 16 points lower in math (717 vs. 733).
- PSAT and SAT results show lower student performance in online schools compared to non-online schools. In 2022–23, mean scores for students in online schools were 31 points lower in PSAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing (432 vs. 463), 40 points lower in PSAT Math (407 vs. 447), 52 points lower in SAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing (455 vs. 507), and 61 points lower in SAT Math (425 vs. 486).
- The dropout rate for online schools has decreased over time but remains higher than the statewide dropout rate. In the 2022-23 school year, the dropout rate for online schools was 4.7 percent higher (6.8 percent online schools vs. 2.1 percent state) than the statewide dropout rate.
- The four-year graduation rate for online schools in 2023 was 55.7 percent compared to the state graduation rate of 83.1 percent.

Introduction

Online learning is a public school option in Colorado that offers students and families an education choice that falls outside of the traditional walls of a school building. Students and families choose online learning for a variety of reasons. With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, there has been increased interest in the online learning option as evidenced by rising student enrollment and the opening of new online schools.

In the 2023-24 school year, there were 64 online schools operating in Colorado. Of the 64 schools, 47 were designated as multi-district online schools (MDOLs) and were authorized by twenty-five school districts, two Board of Cooperative Education Services (BOCES), and the state Charter School Institute (CSI). The remaining 17 online schools are designated as Single-District Online Schools (SDOLs), authorized by 14 individual school districts, with some districts operating multiple SDOLs.

In addition to authorizing online schools, a school district or the CSI may authorize a single-district online program.¹ In the 2023-24 school year, there were 43 single-district online programs in operation. A total of twenty-nine school districts serve as authorizers for the 43 single-district online programs, with several districts authorizing multiple programs.

Online Schools and Programs Over the Years

The number of online schools has increased since the last publication of this report. Beginning in the 2020–21 school year, the number of online schools grew, with the largest increase occurring in 2021–22, when nine new schools opened. The increase in the number of schools is atypical; however, it is representative of interest from many districts that sought to continue to offer a permanent or expanded online learning option after the COVID-19 pandemic. Table 1 lists the online schools that opened from the 2019-20 school year through the 2023-24 school year.

Table 1: New Online Schools-School Years 2019–20 through 2022–23

School Year Opened	Authorizer	Online School	Online Type
2019-20	No new schools opened in 2019	n/a	n/a
2020-21	Alamosa School District	Alamosa Online School	Single District
2020-21	Weld RE-4	Inspire4 K-12 Online School	Single District
2020-21	Harrison School District	Aspire Online Academy	Multi-district
2021-22	Colorado Springs 11	Spark Online Academy	Multi-district
2021-22	Greeley 6	District 6 Online Academy	Multi-district
2021-22	Education reEnvisioned BOCES	Colorado Summit Connections Academy	Multi-district
2021-22	Charter School Institute	Colorado Early College Online Campus	Multi-district
2021-22	School District 27 J	27J Online Academy	Single District
2021-22	St Vrain Valley RE1J	St. Vrain LaunchED Virtual Academy	Single District

¹ Colorado statute defines an online program as “a full-time education program that delivers a sequential program of synchronous or asynchronous instruction, directed by a teacher, primarily through online digital learning strategies that provide students choice over time, place, path, and teacher-guided modality of learning.” The difference between an online program and online school is that a program can only enroll up to 99 students. If an online program wanted to enroll more than 99 students, it would need to operate as an online school with its own unique school code and accountability history.



School Year Opened	Authorizer	Online School	Online Type
2021-22	Delta County 50J	Delta Online Learning Academy	Single District
2021-22	Widefield School District 3	D3MyWay Virtual School**	Single District
2021-22	Pueblo City 60	D60 Online School	Single District
2022-23	Mapleton 1	Mapleton Online	Multi-district
2022-23	Delta County 50(j)	Vision Charter Academy***	Multi-district
2022-23	Eagle County RE 50	World Academy Elementary School	Single District
2022-23	Eagle County RE 50	World Academy Middle School	Single District
2022-23	Education reEnvisioned BOCES	Leadership Academy of Colorado	Multi-district
2022-23	Weld County School District RE-3J	Weld Re-3J Online Innovations	Single District
2023-24	Adams 12 Five Star Schools	Five Star Online Academy*	Multi-district
2023-24	Widefield School District 3	D3MyWay Virtual School*	Multi-district
2023-24	St. Vrain	St. Vrain LaunchED Virtual Academy*	Multi-district
2023-24	Crowley County RE-1-J	Crowley County Virtual Academy	Single District

*Operated as an SDOL prior to MDOL status
 **Operated as SDOL Program prior to current school status
 ***Operated as a non-online school prior to 2022

In addition to the opening of new online schools, some have discontinued operations and closed since the last publication of this report. Table 2 lists the online schools that closed between school years 2019–20 and 2023–24.

Table 2: Online School Closures: School Years 2019–20 through 2022–23

School Year Closed	Authorizer	Online School	Online Type
2019-20	Byers 32J	Elevate Academy Elementary School	Multi-district
2019-20	27J School District	Bolt Academy	Single District
2020-21	Douglas County Re 1	HOPE Online Learning Academy Elementary	Multi-district
2021-22	Las Animas RE-1	Immersion Schools Science Technology Arts	Multi-district
2022-23	Weld RE4	Inspire4 K-12 Online School	Single District
2023-24	Delta County 50J	Delta Online Learning Academy	Single District

In-Person Attendance

Online education is largely seen as students attending remotely from home to access course content via a computer. While some online schools within the state do operate in this manner, many online schools and programs offer the opportunity for students to attend at a physical location for a variety of reasons. The way in which an online school may provide the physical attendance option varies by school. For some multi-district online schools that provide an in-person option, this may be accomplished through required attendance at a learning center. Other multi-district online schools may offer an optional in-person attendance option for students at a drop-in center, or an in-district site. For a single district online school or program, local, in-person support may come from an in-district site where students can attend.

Definitions for each of these options are provided below:

- A **Learning Center** is defined in statute as “a facility in which a consistent group of students meets more often than once per week under the supervision of a teacher or mentor for a significant portion of a school day for the purpose of participating in an online program.” Statute further states that “a group of parents and students meeting repeatedly, occasionally, and informally, even if facilitated by a school, shall not constitute a ‘learning center’, and a private home shall not be considered a ‘learning center’ under any circumstances.” Learning centers require the multi-district online school to enter into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the school district where the learning center will be located.²
- A **Drop-In Center** is not defined in statute; however, in practice, it is a physical location offered to students enrolled in an online school that is located outside of the online school’s authorizing district. Students may not meet regularly and instead attend on an as-needed basis and/or to complete testing that requires supervision. A drop-in center operates without a memorandum of understanding (MOU).
- An **In-District Site** is also not defined in statute. In practice, it is a physical location that is located within the authorizing district’s physical boundaries. Sometimes, an in-district site may be referred to by schools as a “learning center” but does not meet the statutory definition as described above. Students may be required to attend as part of the online school’s programming or may have the option of attending on an as-needed basis and/or to complete testing that requires supervision. An in-district site does not require a memorandum of understanding as it is not outside of the authorizing district’s boundaries.

Tables 3, 6, and 7 below provide additional detail on the physical attendance offerings for the 2023-24 school year by online school and program.

Multi-District Online Schools

A multi-district online school (MDOL) is defined in statute as an online school that serves a student population drawn from two or more school districts. Some multi-district online schools in Colorado enroll students from across the state, while others primarily serve students near the school’s physical location but must obtain multi-district authorization to enroll ten or more students from outside the district.

Multi-district online schools may be authorized by a single school district, a group of two or more school districts, a Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES), or the Charter School Institute (CSI). During the 2023–2024 academic year, a total of 47 multi-district online schools operated in Colorado. Of these, 41 were authorized by individual school districts, 7 by BOCES, and 1 by the CSI. No multi-district online schools were authorized by a group of multiple school districts during this period. Of the 47 multi-district online schools operating in the 2023-24 school year, 6 were charter schools and 41 were non-charter schools, 34 of which were district-controlled.³

Pursuant to statute, when a district, multiple districts, a BOCES, or the CSI seek to authorize a multi-district

² More information about the learning center MOU can be found in §22-30.7-111, C.R.S.

³ Although an online school is district-controlled, the district may choose to contract with a private provider (Education Service Provider (ESP)) and provide oversight through the contract.

online school, they must apply to the state for a certification. Statute outlines criteria for the State Board of Education to consider when determining whether to certify, which includes:

- Whether the authorizer possesses adequate resources and capacity to oversee the proposed multi-district online school;
- Whether a plan for operating and monitoring the multi-district online school has been agreed to by the authorizer and the school and satisfies requirements outlined in State Board of Education rules⁴; and
- The degree to which the multi-district online school will meet the Quality Standards for Online Schools and Programs which are described in §22-30.7-105, C.R.S. and further delineated in 1 CCR 301-71.⁵

The State Board of Education is presented with the results of a review conducted by a team of CDE staff and an independent team of reviewers. The State Board of Education then votes to approve or deny the certification application during an open meeting.

Table 3: Multi-District Online Schools in 2023-24 School Year

Authorizer	Online School	Grades Served	Type of Physical Meeting Location
Academy 20	Village Middle School	6-8	In-district
Academy 20	TCA College Pathways	7-12	In-district
Academy 20	Village High School	9-12	In-district
Adams 12 Five Star Schools	Five Star Online Academy	4-12	In-district
Boulder Valley Re 2	Boulder Universal	K-12	In-district
Branson Reorganized 82	Branson School Online	K-12	N/A-Fully virtual
Byers 32J	Astravo Online Academy Elementary School	K-5	N/A-Fully virtual
Byers 32J	Astravo Online Academy High School	9-12	N/A-Fully virtual
Byers 32J	Astravo Online Academy Middle School	6-8	N/A-Fully virtual
Byers 32J	Colorado Online High School	9-12	N/A-Fully virtual
Byers 32J	Colorado Online Middle School	6-8	N/A-Fully virtual
Byers 32J	Colorado Virtual Academy	K-6	N/A-Fully virtual
Byers 32J	Colorado Virtual Academy High School	9-12	N/A-Fully virtual
Byers 32J	Colorado Virtual Academy Middle School	7-8	N/A-Fully virtual
Charter School Institute	Colorado Early College Online Campus	6-12	N/A-Fully virtual
Colorado Springs 11	Achieve Online	6-12	In-district
Colorado Springs 11	Spark Online Academy	K-12	In-district
Delta County 50(j)	Vision Charter Academy	9-12	In-district
Denver County 1	Denver Online	6-12	In-district
District 49	GOAL Academy	9-12	Drop-in Center
District 49	Pikes Peak Early College	9-12	N/A-Fully virtual
District 49	Springs Studio for Academic Excellence	K-12	In-district
Douglas County Re 1	HOPE Online Learning Academy High School	9-12	Learning Center
Douglas County Re 1	HOPE Online Learning Academy Middle School	6-8	Learning Center

⁴ See section 4.04 of 1 CCR 301-71 *Rules for the Administration, Certification and Oversight of Colorado Online Programs*

⁵ See section 3.00 of 1 CCR 301-71 *Rules for the Administration, Certification and Oversight of Colorado Online Programs*



Authorizer	Online School	Grades Served	Type of Physical Meeting Location
Durango 9-R	Colorado Connections Academy @ Durango	K-12	N/A-Fully virtual
Education reEnvisioned BOCES	Colorado Preparatory Academy Elementary School	K-5	N/A-Fully virtual
Education reEnvisioned BOCES	Colorado Preparatory Academy High School	9-12	N/A-Fully virtual
Education reEnvisioned BOCES	Colorado Preparatory Academy Middle School	6-8	N/A-Fully virtual
Education reEnvisioned BOCES	Colorado Summit Connections Academy	K-12	N/A-Fully virtual
Education reEnvisioned BOCES	Pikes Peak Online School	9-12	N/A-Fully virtual
Education reEnvisioned BOCES	Williamsburg Academy of Colorado	6-12	N/A-Fully virtual
Greeley 6	District 6 Online Academy	K-12	In-district
Hanover 28	Hanover Online Academy	K-12	N/A-Fully virtual
Harrison School District	Aspire Online Academy	K-12	In-district
Jefferson County R-1	Jeffco Virtual Academy	6-12	Fully virtual
Jefferson County R-1	JeffCo Remote Learning Program	K-12	In-district
Julesburg Re-1	Destinations Career Academy of Colorado	4-12	N/A-Fully virtual
Las Animas RE-1	Academy of Las Animas Online School	6-12	Drop-in Center
Mapleton 1	Mapleton Online	K-12	In-district
Monte Vista C-8	Monte Vista On-Line Academy	4-12	In-district
Peyton 23 Jt	Peyton Online Academy	K-12	In-district
Poudre R-1	PSD Global Academy	K-12	In-district
Pueblo County 70	70 Online	6-12	In-district
San Juan BOCES	Southwest Colorado eSchool	6-12	In-district
School District 27J	Connections Academy@27J	K-12	N/A-Fully virtual
St Vrain Valley RE1J	St. Vrain LaunchED Virtual Academy	K-12	In-district
Widefield School District 3	The Haven School	K-12	In-district

Education Service Providers

An Education Service Provider (ESP) is a for-profit organization that an online school may contract with for educational services. Contractual arrangements with ESPs for the provision of online learning experiences are common but the specific terms of an agreement between a provider and a school or a district can vary. The scope of an ESP arrangement is often comprehensive and may encompass aspects such as program design and implementation, online class management, teacher employment, enrollment and financial services, and other instructional and operational functions.

When an authorizer applies for certification of a multi-district online school to the state, the authorizer is asked to report whether the school will be managed by an Education Service Provider and provide a level of transparency related to the terms of the agreement with the ESP. For the 2023-24 school year in Colorado, 40.1 percent of online students attended one of seventeen multi-district online schools that contracted with an ESP. A list of known multi-district online schools currently contracting with ESPs is provided below.

Table 4: Online Schools Contracting with Education Service Provider (ESP) in 2023-24 School Year

Authorizer	Multi-district Online School	2023-24 Enrollment	Education Service Provider
Byers 32J	Astravo Online Academy Elementary School	637	Colorado Education Solutions
Byers 32J	Astravo Online Academy High School	2,578	Colorado Education Solutions
Byers 32J	Astravo Online Academy Middle School	854	Colorado Education Solutions
Byers 32J	Colorado Online High School	389	Colorado Education Solutions
Byers 32J	Colorado Online Middle School	321	Colorado Education Solutions
Byers 32J	Colorado Virtual Academy	405	Colorado Education Solutions
Byers 32J	Colorado Virtual Academy High School	602	Colorado Education Solutions
Byers 32J	Colorado Virtual Academy Middle School	131	Colorado Education Solutions
School District 27J	Connections Academy@27J	1,652	Connections Education
Durango 9-R	Connections Academy @Durango	752	Connections Education
Julesburg Re-1	Destinations Career Academy	565	K12, Inc.
Education reEnvisioned BOCES	Colorado Preparatory Academy Elementary School	903	K12, Inc.
Education reEnvisioned BOCES	Colorado Preparatory Academy High School	751	K12, Inc.
Education reEnvisioned BOCES	Colorado Preparatory Academy Middle School	678	K12, Inc.
Education reEnvisioned BOCES	Pikes Peak Online School	384	K12, Inc.
Education reEnvisioned BOCES	Colorado Summit Connections Academy	930	Connections Education
Education reEnvisioned BOCES	Leadership Academy of Colorado	228	Williamsburg Learning
Total ESP Enrollment		12,760	

Online Charter Schools

A charter school is a Colorado non-profit that operates a public school under a contract or “charter” between the governing board of an authorizer (a school district or the Charter School Institute), and the governing board of the non-profit. The charter contract outlines the school’s goals, standards, education design, governance, operations, and commitments related to accountability. In Colorado, a charter school is accountable to its authorizer, and the authorizer must annually review the charter school’s performance relative to both academic and financial indicators. In the 2023-24 school year, six multi-district online schools operated as charter schools. This is a decrease from the previous school year when thirteen multi-district online schools operated as charter schools. The decrease is partially explained by the reclassification of seven charter schools, which were transitioned to non-charter status.

Student enrollment numbers indicate that 26.6 percent of online students attended an online school managed under a charter contract. All the charter-managed online schools operating in the 2023-24 school year were multi-district online schools. Table 5 below lists online charter schools in Colorado and their 2023-24 student enrollment numbers.

Table 5: Online Charter Schools and Student Enrollment in 2023-24 School Year

Authorizer	Online School	Online Type	Enrollment Count
Academy 20	TCA College Pathways	Multi-district	529
Charter School Institute	Colorado Early College Online Campus	Multi-district	337
District 49	GOAL Academy	Multi-district	6,142
Douglas County Re 1	HOPE Online Learning Academy High School	Multi-district	1,061
Douglas County Re 1	HOPE Online Learning Academy Middle School	Multi-district	307

Delta County 50(j)	Vision Charter Academy	Multi-district	106
Total Charter School Enrollment			8,482

Single District Online Schools

A single district online school (SDOL) is defined in statute as an online school that only serves students who reside in a single school district. Single district online schools are assigned a school code, operate with their own administrators, maintain a separate budget, and operate a complete instructional program. In the 2023-24 school year, there were 17 single district online schools in operation in the state. Table 6 below includes single district schools and indicates the grades served and type of physical meeting location.

Table 6: Single District Online Schools in 2023-24 School Year

District Name	School Name	Grades Served	Type of Physical Meeting Location
Adams 12 Five Star Schools	Pathways Future Center	6-12	In-district
Alamosa School District	Alamosa Online School	6-12	In-district
Center 26 JT	Center Virtual Academy	9-12	In-district
Cherry Creek 5	Cherry Creek Elevation	6-12	In-district
Crowley County RE-1-J	Crowley County Virtual Education Academy	4-12	In-district
Douglas County Re 1	eDCSD	9-12	In-district
Eagle County RE 50	World Academy High School	9-12	In-district
Eagle County RE 50	World Academy Elementary School	K-5	In-district
Eagle County RE 50	World Academy Middle School	6-8	In-district
Holyoke Re-1J	Holyoke Alternative School	7-12	In-district
Mesa County Valley 51	Grand River Academy	K-12	In-district
Montrose County RE-1J	Peak Virtual Academy	K-12	In-district
Pueblo City 60	D60 Online School	5-8	In-district
Pueblo City 60	Paragon Learning Center	9-12	In-district
School District 27J	27J Online Academy	K-12	In-district
St Vrain Valley RE1J	St. Vrain Virtual High School	9-12	In-district
Weld County School District RE-3J	Weld Re-3J Online Innovations	7-12	In-district

Single District Online Programs

Single district online programs are full-time education programs which provide a sequential program of instruction. A single district online program does not include a supplemental online program, which would only offer courses to students on a course-level basis. Although students may attend a program full-time, the accountability for the student’s performance in an online program is attributed back to the school that houses the online program. If an online program’s student enrollment count exceeds 100 students, the program is considered a school and is required to apply for a school code and will then be held to the reporting requirements and state and federal accountability processes that are applicable to schools in Colorado. Table 7 displays a current list of single district online programs for 2023-24.



Table 7: Single District Online Programs in 2023-24 School Year

District Name	Program Name	Grades Served	Type of Physical Meeting Location
Adams 14	Lester Arnold Online Program	9-12	In-district
Westminster Public Schools	Westminster Virtual Academy	6-12	In-district
Englewood School District	Englewood-Colorado's Finest Alternative School	6-12	In-district
Sheridan 2	Sheridan High School Online Program	9-12	In-district
Sheridan 2	SOAR Academy Online Program	9-12	In-district
Littleton 6	LPS Voyager	9-12	In-district
Adams-Arapahoe 28J	APS Avenues	9-12	In-district
Adams-Arapahoe 28J	APS Avenues 6-8	6-8	In-district
Adams-Arapahoe 28J	APS Behavior & Health	6-12	In-district
Adams-Arapahoe 28J	APS 3-8 Online	3-8	In-district
Adams-Arapahoe 28J	APS Expulsion program	6-12	In-district
Adams-Arapahoe 28J	APS Program-Parallel	6-12	In-district
North Conejos RE-1J	North Conejos Alternative Program	9-12	In-district
Denver Public Schools	Colorado Charter High School	9-12	In-district
Denver Public Schools	Colorado Charter High School-GES	9-12	In-district
Douglas County Re 1	eDCSD Base Program	9-12	In-district
Douglas County Re 1	eDCSD K-6 Program	K-6	In-district
Douglas County Re 1	eDCSD 7-8 Program	7-8	In-district
Fountain 8	Fountain Fort Carson Online Academy	K-12	In-district
Colorado Springs 11	Extended Learning Program	6-12	In-district
Hanover School District 28	Hanover District Online Program	6-12	In-district
Lewis-Palmer 38	Lewis Palmer Middle School Online Program	6-8	In-district
Lewis-Palmer 38	Lewis Palmer High School Online Program	9-12	In-district
D49	E at the Creek	9-12	In-district
Canon City Schools (Fremont RE-1)	Canon City High School	9-12	In-district
Gunnison Watershed RE1J	Gunnison Watershed School District Online	9-12	In-district
Jefferson County R-1	Brady Bridge	9-12	In-district
Jefferson County R-1	Brady Online	9-12	In-district
Thompson R2-J	SOARS	9-12	In-district
Thompson R2-J	Thompson Online 4-8 at Walt Clark Middle School	4-8	In-district
Thompson R2-J	Thompson Online 9-12 at Thompson Valley High School	9-12	In-district
Valley RE-1	Six 12 Online	9-12	In-district
Montrose County RE-1J	Graduation Alliance	9-12	In-district
East Otero R-1	Tigers Online Program	9-12	In-district
Platte Canyon 1	PCHS Online	9-12	In-district
Park County RE-2	South Park Online	9-12	In-district
Park County RE-2	Virtual Village - Lake George Charter School	K-8	In-district
Upper Rio Grande C-7	Del Norte School Blended Learning	9-12	In-district
Steamboat Springs RE-2	Yampa Valley High School Online Program	9-12	In-district
Woodland Park Re-2	Woodland Park Online Program	K-12	In-district

District Name	Program Name	Grades Served	Type of Physical Meeting Location
Weld Re-1	Weld Re-1 Online Program	9-12	In-district
Johnstown-Milliken RE-5J	RHS Online	9-12	In-district
Weld Re-8 School District	Weld 8 Schools Online Academy	6-12	In-district

Student Enrollment

Online Enrollment Through the Years

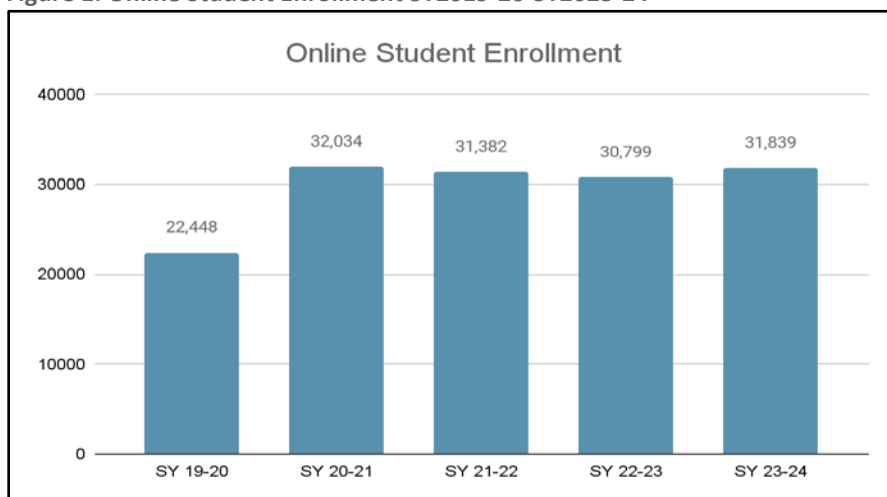
Enrollment in online schools and programs has increased 41.8 percent from the 2019-20 school year to the 2023-24 school year. This increase is significant compared to the incremental increases in the past. One of the significant increases occurred between the 2019-20 and 2020-21 school year in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic. Student enrollment increased 42.7 percent in this specific year. The following school year, 2021-22, there was a slight decrease in enrollment with the trend continuing into the 2022-23 school year. In the 2023-24 school year, student enrollment again increased at a more typical level, 3.4 percent from the previous school year. Figure 1 below shows the combined enrollment for online schools and programs over the last five years.

COVID-19 Impact on Enrollment

In March of 2020, the state began to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic and the impact on in-person student learning. In-person learning was suspended for a time through an executive order issued by the governor. During this time, almost all districts transitioned to remote, virtual instruction. As mentioned above, a significant increase in student enrollment in online schools and programs occurred with an increase of 42.7 percent from the 2019-20 school year to the 2020-21 school year.

In addition to the increase in student enrollment in online learning, there was also an increase in the number of schools and programs that expanded grade levels to meet the demand for online learning. Many districts that did not offer an online school or program sought to open one during this time as well. Seventeen new online schools opened between 2020 and 2023, which was a significant increase compared to the pre-pandemic time period.

Figure 1: Online Student Enrollment SY2019-20-SY2023-24



Enrollment by School and District

Student enrollment in online schools and programs significantly increased in the 2020-21 school year from the previous year. After the 2020-21 school year, student enrollment decreased slightly each year, however the rate of decrease is fairly level from year to year. Overall, online schools and programs have seen an increase in enrollment of 41.8 percent from 2019 through 2024. The total student enrollment for online schools and programs in the 2023-24 school year was 31,839 which represents 3.75 percent of all K-12 public school students in Colorado.

Online school enrollment varies from school to school. Figures 2 and 3 illustrate the student enrollment of online schools. In the 2023-24 school year, GOAL Academy (District 49) was the largest multi-district online school with 6,142 students, followed by Astravo Academy Online High School (Byers 32J) with 2,578 students and Connections Academy (27J) with a student enrollment count of 1,652.

Figure 2: 2023-24 Student Enrollment by Multi-District Online School

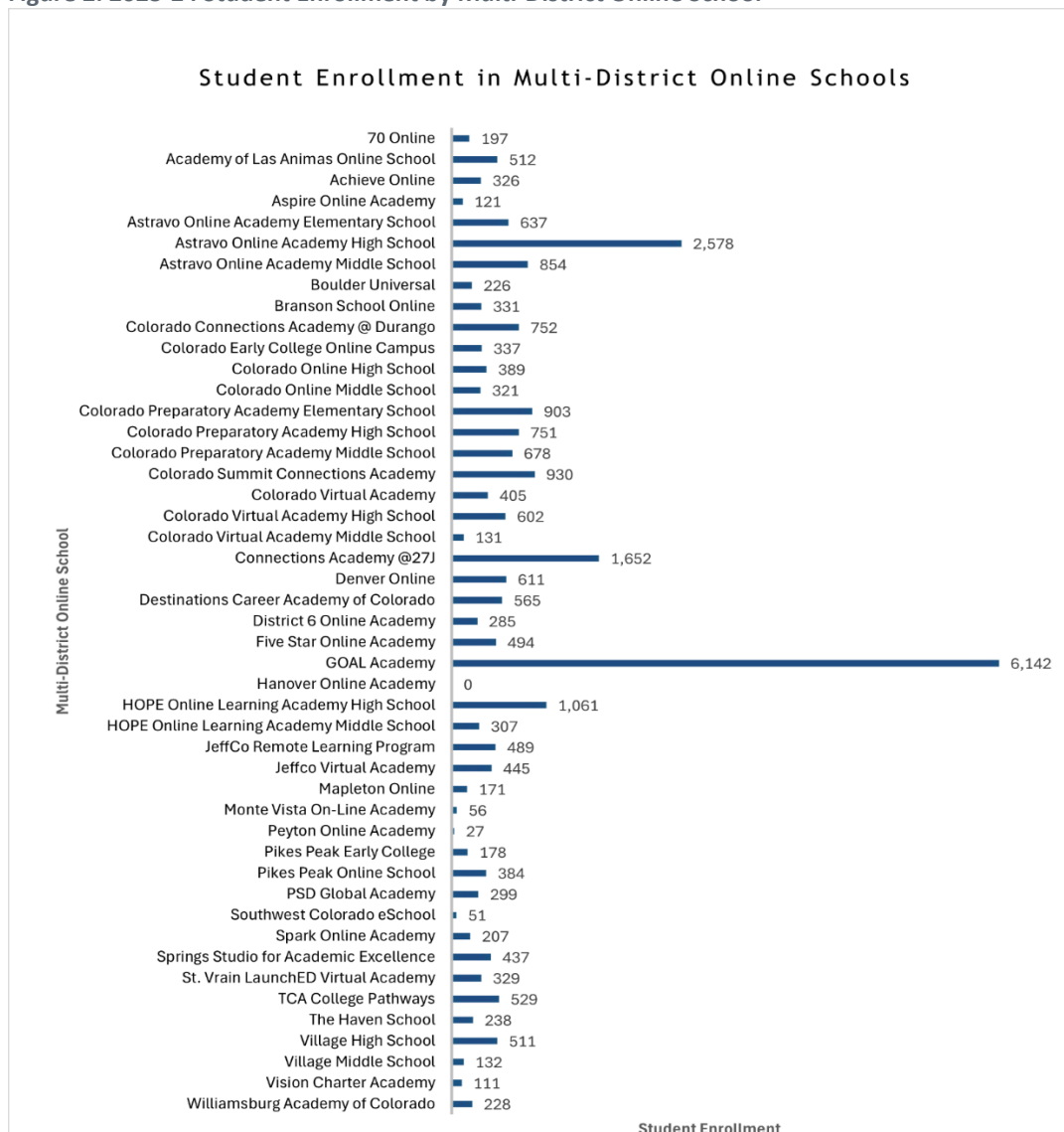


Figure 3: 2023-24 Student Enrollment by Single District Online School

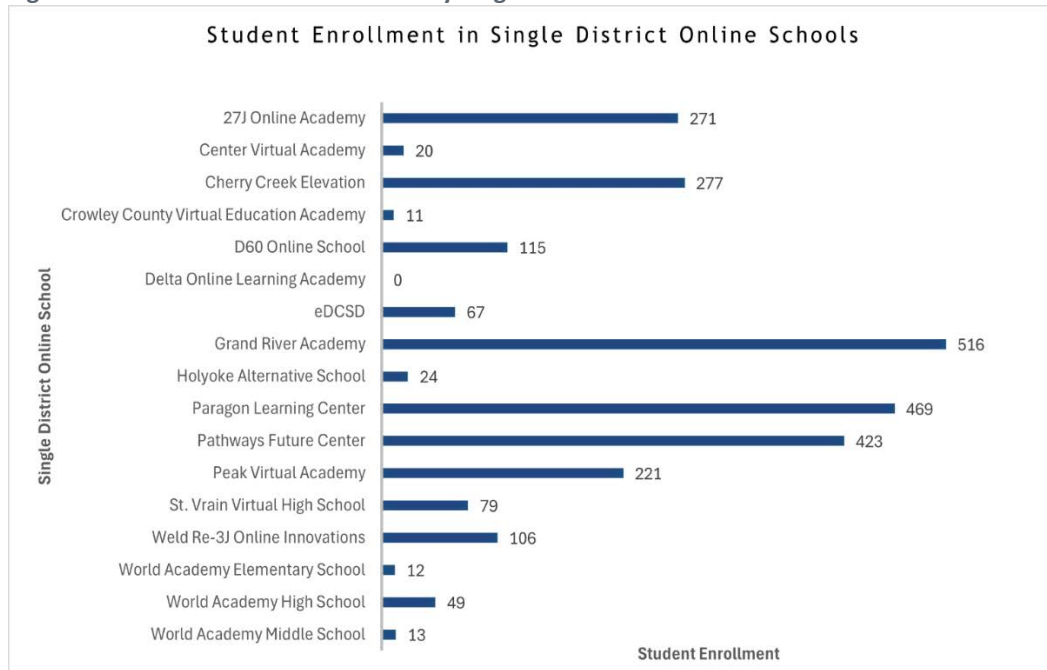


Table 8: Online School Student Enrollment, School Years (SY) 2019–20 through 2023–24

Online School	SY 2019-20	SY 2020-21	SY 2021-22	SY 2022-23	SY 2023-24
27J Online Academy	-	-	390	297	271
70 Online	218	230	214	163	197
Academy of Las Animas Online School	1796	1701	351	331	512
Achieve Online	271	308	332	354	326
Alamosa Online School	-	556	92	14	18
Aspire Online Academy	-	-	139	123	121
Astravo Online Academy Elementary School	114	805	679	573	637
Astravo Online Academy High School	485	1332	1564	2134	2578
Astravo Online Academy Middle School	68	756	714	827	854
Boulder Universal	76	954	382	206	226
Branson School Online	364	522	419	373	331
Center Virtual Academy	16	13	15	19	20
Cherry Creek Elevation	121	133	655	368	277
Colorado Connections Academy @ Durango	810	2340	1157	964	752
Colorado Early College Online Campus	-	-	-	255	337
Colorado Online High School	191	525	513	322	389



Online School	SY 2019-20	SY 2020-21	SY 2021-22	SY 2022-23	SY 2023-24
Colorado Online Middle School	200	551	420	371	321
Colorado Preparatory Academy Elementary School	714	2280	1294	1010	903
Colorado Preparatory Academy High School	659	895	772	810	751
Colorado Preparatory Academy Middle School	685	1178	755	718	678
Colorado Summit Connections Academy	-	-	416	789	930
Colorado Virtual Academy	237	447	454	264	405
Colorado Virtual Academy High School	357	370	369	525	602
Colorado Virtual Academy Middle School	135	78	125	133	131
Connections Academy @27J	2274	2532	2154	1728	1652
Crowley County Virtual Education Academy	-	-	-	-	11
D60 Online School	-	-	353	164	115
Delta Online Learning Academy	-	-	40	14	-
Denver Online	287	263	307	799	611
Destinations Career Academy of Colorado	545	777	545	375	565
District 6 Online Academy	-	-	628	357	285
eDCSD	35	45	34	67	67
Five Star Online Academy	-	-	-	510	494
GOAL Academy	4965	5308	5328	5690	6142
Grand River Academy	328	311	513	508	516
Hanover Online Academy	5	6	*	*	*
Holyoke Alternative School	10	31	25	22	24
HOPE Online Learning Academy High School	590	651	1600	1361	1061
HOPE Online Learning Academy Middle School	489	439	414	394	307
JeffCo Remote Learning Program	-	-	-	583	489
Jeffco Virtual Academy	304	374	1446	339	445
Mapleton Online	-	-	-	195	171
Monte Vista On-Line Academy	114	117	93	85	56
Paragon Learning Center	187	269	364	412	469
Pathways Future Center	304	392	386	390	423
Peak Virtual Academy	185	204	254	214	221
Peyton Online Academy	31	25	29	18	27
Pikes Peak Early College	179	162	134	169	178
Pikes Peak Online School	778	570	392	372	384
PSD Global Academy	266	251	496	306	299
Southwest Colorado eSchool	61	74	52	44	51
Spark Online Academy	-	-	295	208	207
Springs Studio for Academic Excellence	402	472	424	433	437
St. Vrain LaunchED Virtual Academy	-	-	585	348	329
St. Vrain Virtual High School	128	107	61	75	79
TCA College Pathways	522	512	520	511	529
The Haven School	-	-	343	230	238
Village High School	214	310	408	447	511

Online School	SY 2019-20	SY 2020-21	SY 2021-22	SY 2022-23	SY 2023-24
Village Middle School	137	141	303	158	132
Vision Charter Academy	-	-	-	112	111
Weld Re-3J Online Innovations	-	-	-	115	106
Williamsburg Academy of Colorado	-	-	-	63	228
World Academy Elementary School	-	-	-	16	12
World Academy High School	32	71	56	40	49
World Academy Middle School	-	-	-	7	13

- School not open

* This school reported zero student enrollment for SY.

Table 9 shows the five authorizers with the largest online student enrollments in the state. In total, the five authorizers’ student enrollment accounts for 62.5 percent of all online student enrollment statewide. The schools listed in Table 9 under each authorizer include 20 multi-district online schools and two single-district online schools.

District 49, the authorizer of three multi-district online schools, had the highest number of students enrolled in online schools with 21.2 percent (6,757 students) of the statewide online student enrollment in the 2023-24 school year. This enrollment includes the largest multi-district online school in the state (GOAL Academy) which had 6,142 students enrolled in the 2023-24 school year. The Byers 32J School District has the second highest number of student enrollments with 5,917 students or 18.6 percent of the total online student statewide enrollment for the eight schools authorized by the district. The Education ReEnvisioned BOCES had the third-highest number of students enrolled among authorizers, with six multi-district online schools enrolling a total of 3,874 students, representing 12.2 percent of the total online student enrollment. The 27J School District had a student enrollment count of 1,923 students or 6.0 percent of the total online student enrollment in one multi-district online school and one single district online school. Lastly, the Douglas County Re-1 School District had 1,435 students or 4.5 percent of the total online student enrollment in the two multi-district online schools and one single district online school that the district authorizes.

Table 9: Authorizer with Largest Online School Student Enrollment in the 2023-24 School Year

Authorizer	Number of Online Student Enrollments	Percent of Total Online Student Enrollment
District 49	6,757	21.2%
Byers 32J	5,917	18.6%
Education reEnvisioned BOCES	3,874	12.2%
School District 27J	1,923	6.0%
Douglas County Re-1	1,435	4.5%

Enrollment by Grade Level

Student enrollment in online schools tends to occur more in high school grades as compared to non-online schools. For this report, elementary grades are defined as kindergarten through fifth grade, middle school grades are defined as sixth through eighth grade and high school grades consist of ninth through twelfth grade. From 2019–20 to 2023–24, more than 60 percent of student enrollment each year was concentrated in the high school grades (Figure 4). Further analysis shows that the majority of students enrolled in online schools are in

grades 11 and 12 (17.1 percent and 26.3 percent respectively) whereas the distribution in non-online schools is more evenly distributed throughout all the grade levels.

Figure 4: Percentage of Online Student Enrollment by Grade Level (E, M, H): School Years (SY) 2019–20 through 2023–24

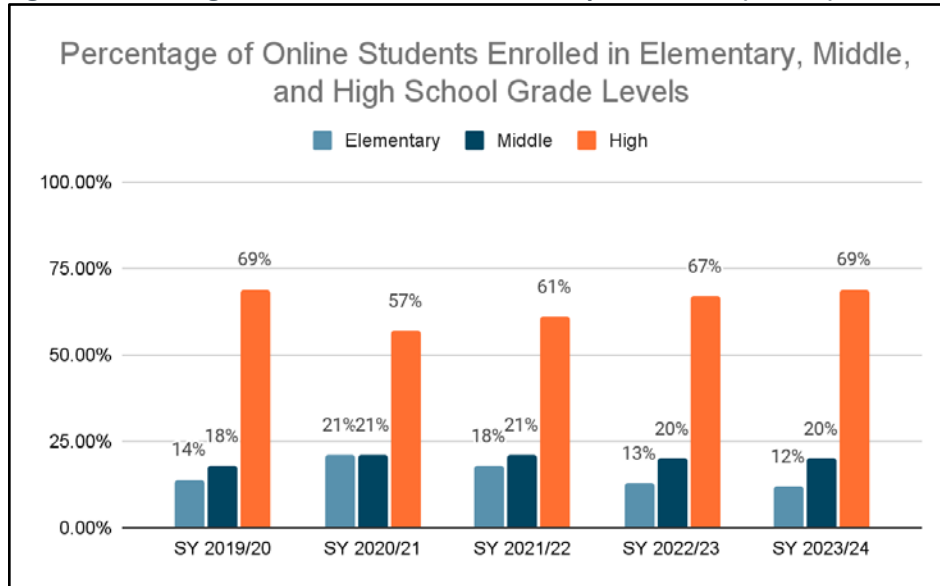


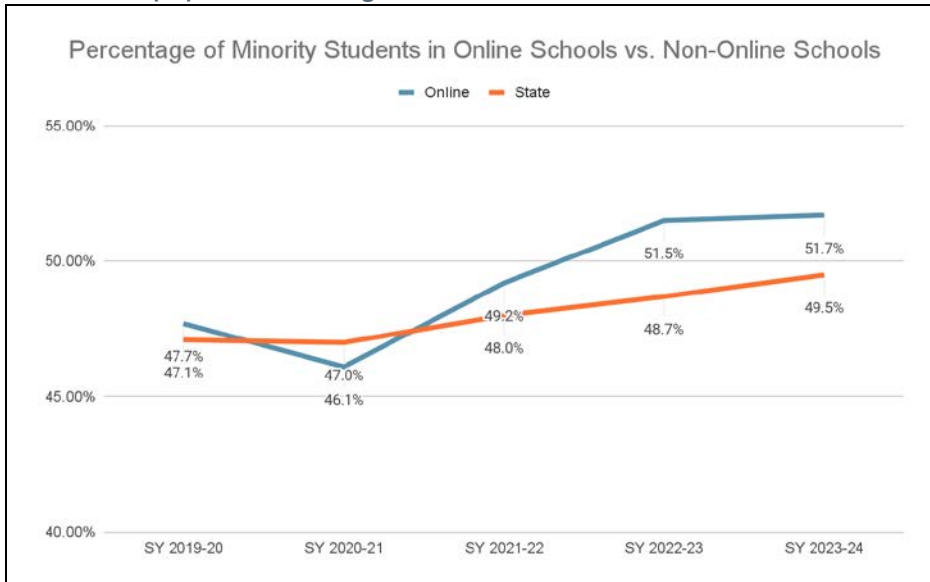
Table 10: Online School Enrollment vs. Non-Online School Enrollment by Grade: School Year (SY) 2023–24

Grade Level	Online	Non-Online
Kindergarten	486 (1.6%)	58,156 (7.1%)
1st	561 (1.8%)	60,316 (7.3%)
2nd	649 (2.1%)	63,469 (7.7%)
3rd	627 (2.1%)	61,448 (7.5%)
4th	708 (2.3%)	62,690 (7.6%)
5th	908 (3.0%)	62,289 (7.6%)
6th	1,279 (4.2%)	62,359 (7.6%)
7th	1,987 (6.5%)	62,799 (7.6%)
8th	2,572 (8.4%)	63,204 (7.7%)
9th	3,202 (10.5%)	66,902 (8.1%)
10th	4,417 (14.4%)	66,161 (8.0%)
11th	5,216 (17.0%)	63,785 (7.7%)
12th	7,999 (26.1%)	65,221 (7.9%)
Totals	30,611	818,799

Online Student Demographics

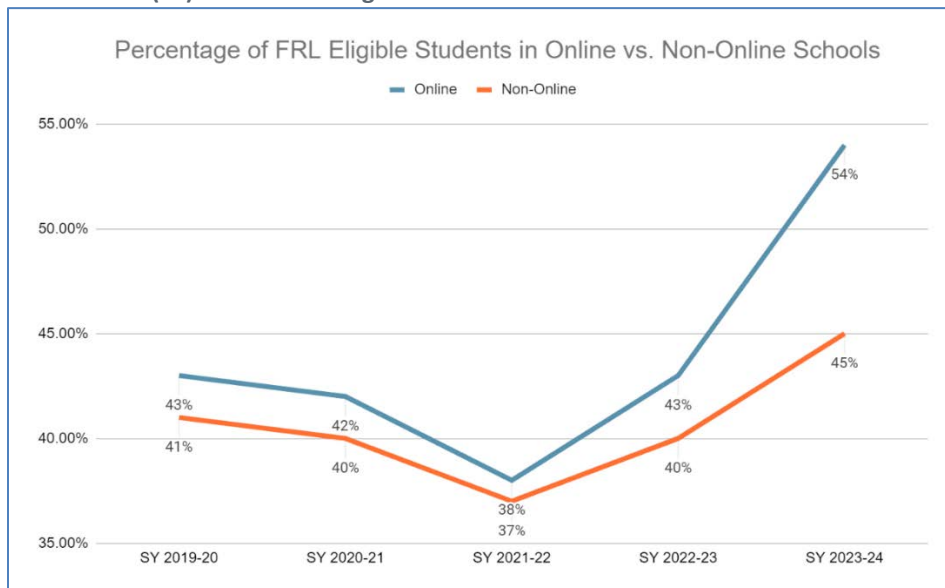
Student demographics in online schools tend to be close to non-online school percentages with a few exceptions. As shown in Figure 5 below, online schools have generally shown a higher percentage of minority students enrolling when compared to non-online schools. The notable exception was in 2020-21, when online schools experienced a large increase in enrollment from the pandemic.

Figure 5: Percentage of Minority Students in Online Schools vs. Statewide: School Years (SY) 2019–20 through 2023–24



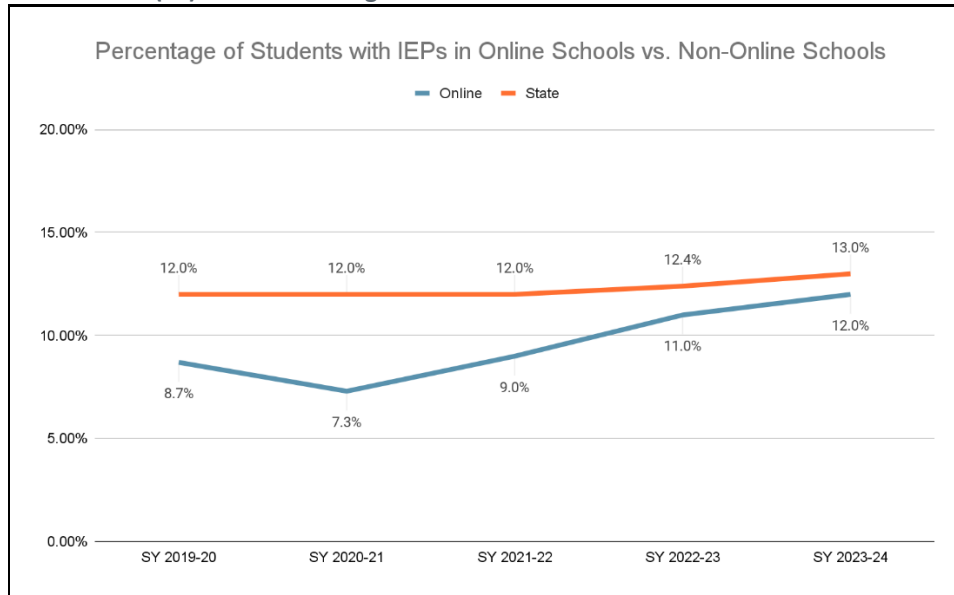
In the 2023-24 school year, online schools served 16,523 students who were eligible for free and reduced meals. This equates to 54.0 percent of students enrolled in online schools. With the exception in the 2023-24 school year, the online school percentage of students eligible for free and reduced lunch (FRL) is similar to non-online school percentages. Figure 6 below reflects the percentage of FRL eligible students in online schools in comparison to non-online schools.

Figure 6: Percentage of FRL Eligible Students in Online Schools vs. Non-Online Schools: School Years (SY) 2019–20 through 2023–24



Historically, online schools have enrolled fewer students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) than non-online schools. Figure 7 below shows that, although the gap grew in the 2020–21 school year, it has significantly narrowed since, reaching 1% in the 2023–24 school year.

Figure 7: Percentage of Students with IEPs in Online Schools vs. Non-Online Schools: School Years (SY) 2019–20 through 2023–24



Student Mobility and Attendance

Background

Mobility rates are indicators of turnover in the student population within a given school year. When a student in grades K-12 enters or leaves a school between the start of the school year (the pupil enrollment count date) and the last day of school, they are counted in the mobility rate.

Instances where a student is considered mobile is any time they would enter or exit a school or district in a manner that is not part of the normal educational progression. Examples of normal progression include advancing grades between academic years, matriculating between elementary school and middle school or between middle school and high school, and exiting as a graduate or completing at the end of the twelfth grade. "Unanticipated" or "non-normal" movements, in which a student would be considered as mobile include examples such as a mid-year grade advancement, entry into a school or district after the pupil enrollment count date or exit from a school or district before the end of the school year.

The following types of events would be included in the mobility calculation:

- Students who transfer into or from a district or charter school or transfer within a school district or charter school;
- Students who transfer into or from a nonpublic or private school or home-based education program (i.e., home school);

- Students who transfer into or from a High School Equivalency (GED) program, vocational education program, licensed eligible facility, state-operated program, detention center, or other educational program operated by the Division of Youth Services or Department of Corrections;
- Students who have been expelled, dropped out, or exited to an unknown educational setting; and
- Students who are absent for an extended period of time or are seriously ill.

Mobility Rate

Mobility rates are calculated from the student pupil count date until the end of the school year.⁶ Mobility is generally considered a measure of disruption; therefore, moves over the summer or at the very beginning of the school year are seen as more routine and less disruptive.

Student mobility rates are calculated in the following way:

Unduplicated count of grade K-12 students who moved into or out of the district in the school year
Divided by
 Total number of K-12 students that were part of the same membership base at any time during the school year

Once a student is counted as mobile for a given school, the student will not be counted again in the same year for the student mobility rate for that school. Figure 8 shows a comparison of aggregated mobility rates for online schools and non-online schools, and Table 11 shows the student mobility rates by online school from school years 2019-20 through 2023-24.⁷

Figure 8: Mobility Rate-Online Schools vs. Non-Online Schools: School Years (SY) 2019–20 through 2023–24

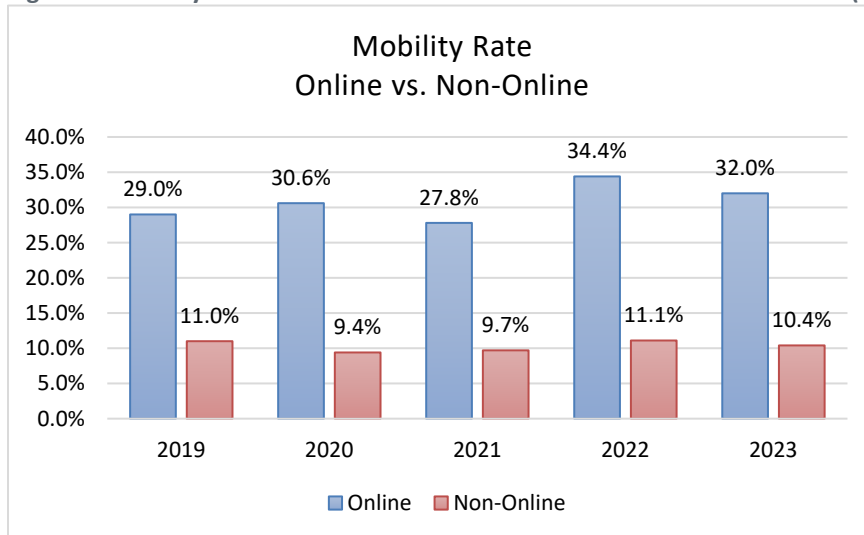


Table 11: Online School Student Mobility Rates: School Years (SY) 2018–19 through 2022–23

⁶ Rules are specified in section 12.06 of 1 CCR 301-1, Rules for Administration of Accreditation of School Districts

⁷ Data privacy guidelines have been applied to mobility rates to maintain student data privacy. For more detailed information about data privacy measures and methods, please see the CDE [Aggregate Data Privacy Guidelines](#)



Online School	SY 2018-19	SY 2019-20	SY 2020-21	SY 2021-22	SY 2022-23
27J Online Academy	-	-	-	37.6%	51.4%
70 Online	53.9%	47.3%	39.3%	54.6%	57.4%
Academy of Las Animas Online School	23.6%	8.5%	18.5%	36.1%	38.1%
Achieve Blended Learning Academy	41.2%	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Achieve Online	36.7%	36.3%	27.2%	26.5%	22.8%
Alamosa Online	-	-	40.6%	55.2%	75.5%
Aspire Online Academy	-	-	-	44.8%	41.3%
Astravo Online Academy Elementary School	38.0%	76.5%	56.5%	57.8%	42.0%
Astravo Online Academy High School	44.5%	81.0%	50.1%	63.7%	38.0%
Astravo Online Academy Middle School	34.7%	16.7%	54.1%	64.5%	47.6%
Boulder Universal	37.2%	39.1%	29.7%	35.6%	35.3%
Bolt Academy	37.0%	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Branson School Online	29.8%	26.5%	18.2%	22.2%	16.3%
Center Virtual Academy	40.0%	45.5%	60.0%	65.0%	65.4%
Cherry Creek Elevation	-	52.9%	17.6%	25.7%	22.5%
Colorado Connections Academy	28.9%	21.8%	16.8%	13.6%	18.1%
Colorado Connections Academy @ Durango	40.9%	32.9%	25.9%	17.8%	14.4%
Colorado Early Colleges Online Campus	-	-	-	-	17.2%
Colorado Online High School	21.0%	76.5%	41.2%	38.0%	57.6%
Colorado Online Middle School	15.9%	16.7%	54.1%	26.0%	84.0%
Colorado Preparatory Academy Elementary	30.2%	31.7%	26.4%	28.0%	29.4%
Colorado Preparatory Academy High School	24.6%	19.9%	20.3%	22.2%	23.3%
Colorado Preparatory Academy Middle School	31.8%	31.9%	26.6%	33.6%	38.4%
Colorado Summit Connections Academy	-	-	-	40.3%	23.1%
Colorado Virtual Academy	23.6%	27.6%	42.8%	38.5%	47.1%
Colorado Virtual Academy High School	36.2%	52.0%	35.8%	61.1%	43.0%
Colorado Virtual Academy Middle School	23.6%	45.4%	56.5%	62.2%	50.2%
D3 My Way Virtual School	-	-	-	39.7%	43.1%
D60 Online School	-	-	-	20.0%	37.8%
Delta Online Learning Academy	-	-	-	52.0%	76.0%
Denver Online	35.9%	41.8%	27.0%	29.0%	27.7%
Destinations Career Academy of Colorado	15.1%	20.0%	9.9%	12.1%	15.7%
District 6 Online Academy	-	-	-	39.3%	35.5%
eDCSD	52.0%	44.1%	6.4%	24.4%	36.4%
Elevate Online Elementary School	14.3%	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Five Star Online Academy	-	-	-	-	25.1%
GOAL Academy	30.9%	28.3%	27.2%	29.9%	29.3%
Grand River Academy	29.4%	27.3%	21.5%	34.8%	35.7%
Hanover Online Academy	85.7%	66.7%	≤ 10%	N/A	N/A
Holyoke Alternative School	59.4%	63.3%	29.3%	57.9%	44.1%
HOPE Online Learning Academy Elementary	14.2%	13.2%	Closed	Closed	Closed
HOPE Online Learning Academy High School	24.7%	21.3%	16.4%	21.0%	22.5%
HOPE Online Learning Academy Middle School	7.90%	≤ 2%	6.5%	13.8%	14.0%
Immersion Schools Science Technology Arts	11.3%	6.6%	19.3%	Closed	Closed
Inspire4 K-12 Online School	-	-	5.3%	Closed	Closed
JeffCo Remote Learning Program	-	-	-	-	22.5%
Jeffco Virtual Academy	45.7%	39.1%	20.0%	34.8%	39.1%
Journey K8	48.9%	30.0%	25.5%	22.1%	16.9%
Leadership Academy of Colorado	-	-	-	-	34.6%

Online School	SY 2018-19	SY 2019-20	SY 2020-21	SY 2021-22	SY 2022-23
Mapleton Online	-	-	-	-	45.1%
Monte Vista On-Line Academy	11.5%	18.6%	13.4%	9.5%	52.7%
Paragon Learning Center	68.6%	52.9%	33.7%	56.2%	48.0%
Pathways Future Center	46.5%	45.0%	46.8%	42.0%	23.8%
Peak Virtual Academy	8.1%	14.3%	6.5%	31.4%	33.3%
Peyton Online Academy	43.8%	18.2%	41.2%	33.3%	5.6%
Pikes Peak Early College	≤ 2%	≤ 2%	6.5%	11.0%	44.6%
Pikes Peak Online School	34.7%	28.7%	26.0%	43.6%	21.8%
PSD Global Academy	22.5%	16.3%	22.3%	21.4%	24.0%
Southwest Colorado eSchool	38.4%	25.0%	5.3%	22.4%	21.6%
Spark Online Academy	-	-	-	41.2%	46.4%
Springs Studio for Academic Excellence	7.9%	6.9%	11.4%	9.6%	10.6%
St. Vrain LaunchED Virtual Academy	-	-	-	33.7%	37.6%
St. Vrain Virtual High School	48.6%	44.4%	21.3%	40.0%	44.6%
TCA College Pathways	6.1%	6.9%	5.9%	7.5%	4.3%
Village High School	15.2%	14.3%	15.5%	11.5%	8.4%
Vision Charter Academy	-	-	-	-	35.3%
Weld Re-3J Online Innovations	-	-	-	-	50.3%
World Academy Middle School	-	-	-	-	23.5%
World Academy High School	54.4%	71.7%	50.5%	64.2%	67.1%
World Academy Middle School	-	-	-	-	73.7%

Mobility Incidence Rate

While the student mobility rate is based on a single occurrence of a student moving to another school setting, the mobility incidence rate takes into consideration multiple occurrences of mobility for a single student. For example, a student who moves in and out of a school multiple times will be counted as mobile multiple times under the mobility incidence rate calculation.

The Mobility Incidence Rate is calculated in the following way:

$$\frac{\text{Duplicated count of grade K-12 students who moved into or out of the district in the school year}}{\text{Total number of K-12 students that were part of the same membership base at any time during the school year}}$$

Figure 9 shows a comparison of mobility incidence rates for online and non-online schools. Table 12 displays the mobility incident rates by online school from school years 2019-20 through 2023-24.⁸

⁸ Data privacy guidelines have been applied to mobility rates to maintain student data privacy. For more detailed information about data privacy measures and methods, please see the CDE [Aggregate Data Privacy Guidelines](#)

Figure 9: Mobility Incidence Rate-Online Schools vs. Non-Online Schools: School Years (SY) 2019–20 through 2022–23

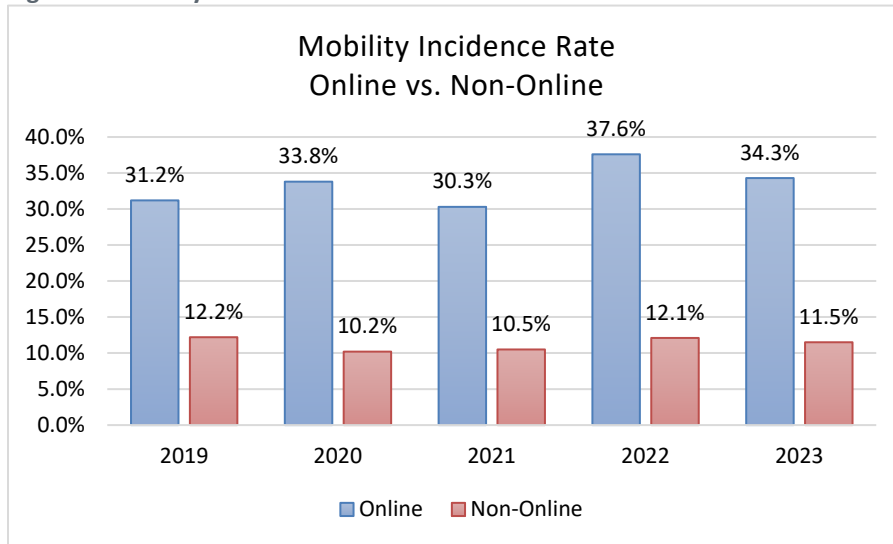


Table 12: Online School Student Mobility Incidence Rates: School Years (SY) 2018–19 through 2022–23

Online School	SY 2018-19	SY 2019-20	SY 2020-21	SY 2021-22	SY 2022-23
27J Online Academy	-	-	-	41.6%	58.8%
70 Online	30.5%	22.3%	17.2%	59.8%	60.0%
Academy of Las Animas Online School	21.0%	N/A	44.2%	36.3%	39.4%
Achieve Blended Learning Academy	42.0%	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Achieve Online	36.7%	50.8%	54.7%	27.8%	23.3%
Alamosa Online	-	-	18.4%	58.6%	91.8%
Aspire Online Academy	-	-	-	49.2%	45.5%
Astravo Online Academy Elementary School	38.0%	96.3%	68.7%	73.0%	49.1%
Astravo Online Academy High School	44.5%	≥ 98%	59.8%	73.7%	40.4%
Astravo Online Academy Middle School	34.7%	16.7%	62.1%	72.8%	51.4%
Boulder Universal	14.3%	39.1%	59.4%	38.3%	39.0%
Bolt Academy	16.5%	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Branson School Online	44.5%	26.5%	68.7%	22.5%	17.5%
Center Virtual Academy	23.6%	45.5%	62.1%	75.0%	73.1%
Cherry Creek Elevation	n/a	52.9%	18.8%	28.4%	24.2%
Colorado Connections Academy	31.6%	21.8%	19.3%	13.7%	18.7%
Colorado Connections Academy @ Durango	38.0%	32.9%	22.1%	18.3%	14.7%
Colorado Early Colleges Online Campus	-	-	-	-	17.2%
Colorado Online High School	21.0%	30.1%	44.9%	41.3%	60.6%
Colorado Online Middle School	16.5%	97.6%	15.9%	27.7%	84.5%
Colorado Preparatory Academy Elementary	12.2%	31.7%	30.6%	30.5%	31.9%
Colorado Preparatory Academy High School	52.0%	19.9%	36.1%	23.2%	25.1%
Colorado Preparatory Academy Middle School	40.7%	31.9%	10.0%	36.2%	41.2%
Colorado Summit Connections Academy	-	-	-	41.6%	23.5%
Colorado Virtual Academy	23.6%	32.2%	50.2%	44.6%	51.2%



Online School	SY 2018-19	SY 2019-20	SY 2020-21	SY 2021-22	SY 2022-23
Colorado Virtual Academy High School	36.7%	61.7%	41.5%	67.9%	45.4%
Colorado Virtual Academy Middle School	31.6%	53.2%	59.4%	67.2%	53.9%
D3 My Way Virtual School	-	-	-	41.5%	48.0%
D60 Online School	-	-	-	20.8%	44.2%
Delta Online Learning Academy	-	-	-	56.0%	92.0%
Denver Online	46.5%	45.8%	27.8%	30.0%	29.1%
Destinations Career Academy of Colorado	18.0%	80.0%	16.7%	14.4%	16.0%
District 6 Online Academy	-	-	-	42.1%	38.5%
eDCSD	15.9%	38.6%	26.2%	26.8%	40.4%
Elevate Online Elementary School	27.6%	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Five Star Online Academy	-	-	-	-	25.7%
GOAL Academy	38.2%	34.4%	5.9%	31.2%	30.5%
Grand River Academy	15.2%	6.9%	41.2%	36.8%	38.8%
Hanover Online Academy	55.2%	18.2%	≤ 10%	N/A	N/A
Holyoke Alternative School	6.3%	83.3%	11.4%	60.5%	44.10%
HOPE Online Learning Academy Elementary	52.1%	14.6%	Closed	Closed	Closed
HOPE Online Learning Academy High School	≥ 9%	29.7%	28.6%	22.0%	23.6%
HOPE Online Learning Academy Middle School	7.9%	≤ 2%	6.5%	13.8%	14.0%
Immersion Schools Science Technology Arts	32.3%	41.2%	19.3%	Closed	Closed
Inspire4 K-12 Online School	n/a	n/a	21.0%	Closed	Closed
JeffCo Remote Learning Program	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	24.0%
Jeffco Virtual Academy	≤ 2%	34.7%	23.4%	37.1%	40.6%
Journey K8	50.1%	16.3%	19.1%	25.1%	16.9%
Leadership Academy of Colorado	-	-	-	-	37.2%
Mapleton Online	-	-	-	-	55.6%
Monte Vista On-Line Academy	43.5%	28.5%	23.2%	10.5%	26.1%
Paragon Learning Center	25.6%	28.1%	15.2%	60.6%	57.3%
Pathways Future Center	31.6%	14.8%	29.3%	46.7%	56.2%
Peak Virtual Academy	31.3%	63.3%	35.7%	35.2%	31.0%
Peyton Online Academy	8.1%	62.6%	43.1%	33.3%	33.3%
Pikes Peak Early College	65.6%	52.4%	15.1%	11.0%	6.20%
Pikes Peak Online School	75.4%	19.5%	73.3%	46.0%	47.2%
PSD Global Academy	59.1%	45.5%	9.9%	22.9%	24.0%
Southwest Colorado eSchool	11.5%	20.3%	21.9%	N/A	21.6%
Spark Online Academy	-	-	-	43.5%	52.4%
Springs Studio for Academic Excellence	40.0%	26.5%	5.30%	9.8%	10.8%
St. Vrain LaunchED Virtual Academy	-	-	-	-	41.4%
St. Vrain Virtual High School	15.1%	33.1%	28.0%	37.1%	47.3%
TCA College Pathways	42.5%	32.7%	28.0%	43.3%	4.3%
Village High School	56.7%	20.5%	21.1%	7.5%	8.4%
Vision Charter Academy	-	-	-	11.5%	41.0%
Weld Re-3J Online Innovations	-	-	-	-	56.6%
World Academy Middle School	-	-	-	-	29.4%
World Academy High School	38.1%	30.0%	26.6%	77.4%	80.8%
World Academy Middle School	-	-	-	-	≥ 98%

-School not open

Attendance

Daily attendance and engagement in learning is essential to student success at all grade levels. Colorado law directly connected to attendance focuses on compulsory school attendance, truancy and school finance. As an online school provides students with flexibility when coursework is completed, attendance is documented in a manner that differs from that of traditional brick-and-mortar schools with daily in-person instruction. Attendance in online schools may be determined through measures such as minimum login duration, completion of assigned tasks during a designated period, or a combination of these methods. While virtual schools may vary in their instructional models, each online school must implement consistent, authorizer-approved attendance and truancy policies and procedures.

Important student attendance definition of rates and terms include:

- Attendance Rate: The Total Days Attended divided by the Total Possible Attendance Days for each student.
- Truancy: Truancy is defined as an unexcused absence. The rate is calculated by dividing the reported Total Student Days Unexcused Absences by the Total Student Days Possible.
- Habitually Truant (Student Count): A student is counted as habitually truant if the student has four excused absences in one month and/or 10 unexcused absences in one school year.
- Chronically Absent: A student absent 10 percent or more of the days enrolled during the school year is chronically absent. All absences are included - unexcused and excused. The rate is the percentage of students enrolled who are chronically absent.

Tables 13-15 below show the attendance rate, truancy rate, and chronic absenteeism rate for the non-online schools in comparison to online schools.

Table 13: Attendance Rate for Online Schools vs. Non-Online Schools

School Year	Online School Attendance Rate	Non-Online School Attendance Rate	Percentage Point Difference
2022 - 2023	94.5%	90.9%	3.6 Points Higher
2021 - 2022	91.3%	90.3%	1.0 Points Higher
2020 - 2021	92.2%	91.9%	0.3 Points Higher

Table 14: Truancy Rate for Online Schools vs. Non-Online Schools

School Year	Online School Truancy Rate	Non-Online School Truancy Rate	Percentage Point Difference
2022 - 2023	6.7%	3.3%	3.4 Points Higher
2021 - 2022	6.0%	3.5%	2.5 Points Higher
2020 - 2021	5.7%	5.1%	0.6 Points Higher

Table 15: Chronic Absenteeism Rate for Online Schools vs. Non-Online Schools

School Year	Online School Chronic Absenteeism Rate	Non-Online School Chronic Absenteeism Rate	Percentage Point Difference
2022 - 2023	31.1%	31.3%	0.2 Points Lower
2021 - 2022	34.5%	34.7%	0.2 Points Lower
2020 - 2021	25.0%	25.2%	0.2 Points Lower

Attendance rates in online schools overall tend to be higher than non-online schools. In the 2022-23 school year, the attendance rate for all grade levels was 3.6 percentage points higher than the attendance rate for non-online schools overall. The truancy rate for online schools has been higher than non-online schools. In the 2022-23 school year, the truancy rate for online schools was 3.4 percentage points higher than the truancy rate for non-online schools. The Chronic Absenteeism Rate for online schools is lower than non-online schools and significantly lower in the K-5 grade levels.

Student Achievement and Growth

Background

Colorado’s statewide assessment system is based on the Colorado Academic Standards (CAS), which are the expectations of what students should know by the end of each grade level. Currently, to measure student mastery of the skills and expectations aligned with the CAS, students in 3rd through 8th grades are given the Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) assessment. The CMAS assessment is the state’s common measurement of students’ progress at the end of the school year in English language arts, math and science. Students in grades three through eight take the CMAS tests in math and English language arts. Students in fifth, eighth and 11th grades take the CMAS science assessments as well.

Students in 9th and 10th grades are given the Preliminary SAT (PSAT) and students in 11th grade are given the SAT.

In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic impacted the administration of the CMAS, PSAT, and SAT assessments. These assessments were not administered in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2021, there was limited testing due to the continued COVID-19 impact. For CMAS in 2021 each grade level had to complete either English Language Arts (3rd, 5th, and 7th grades) or Mathematics (4th, 6th, and 8th grades) but not both.

For more information about state assessments, visit [CDE Assessment](#).

Trends with Participation Rates

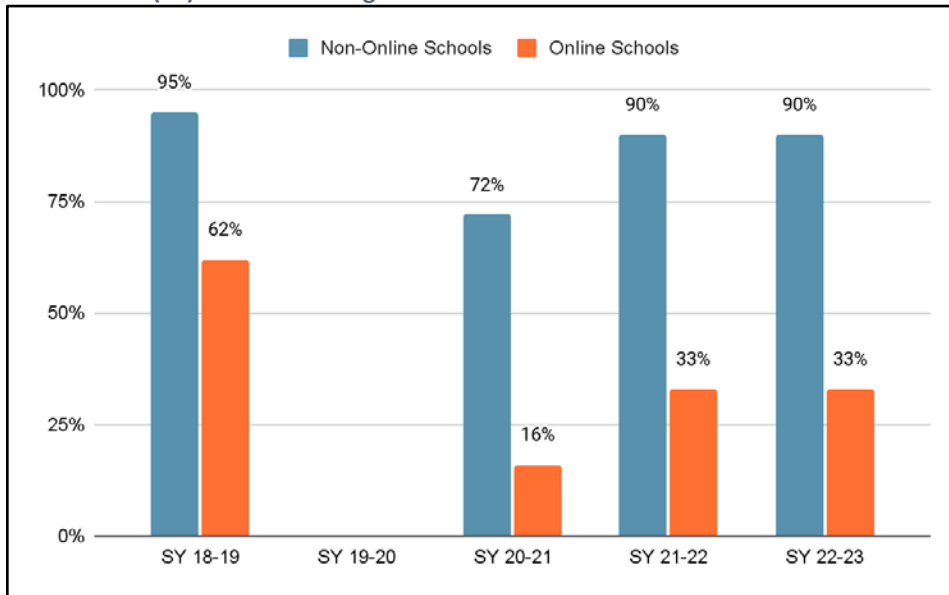
Currently in Colorado, CMAS assessments are the common measurement for students in 3rd through 8th grades. Participation in state assessments is a way for students, parents, schools, districts and the state to understand whether students have mastered grade-level content and are on track to be college or career ready after graduation. Currently, state law allows parents to excuse their students from participating in state assessments.

Districts are not able to impose negative consequences on students or parents if a parent excuses their student from taking an assessment. Similarly, districts also cannot impose burdens on students that would discourage them from participating in assessments.

Online schools have experienced noticeably lower participation rates for state assessments as compared to non-online schools. As displayed by Figures 10 and 11 participation rates on the ELA and Math CMAS assessments for online schools have been lower as compared to non-online schools. This difference has continued to grow over time as well.

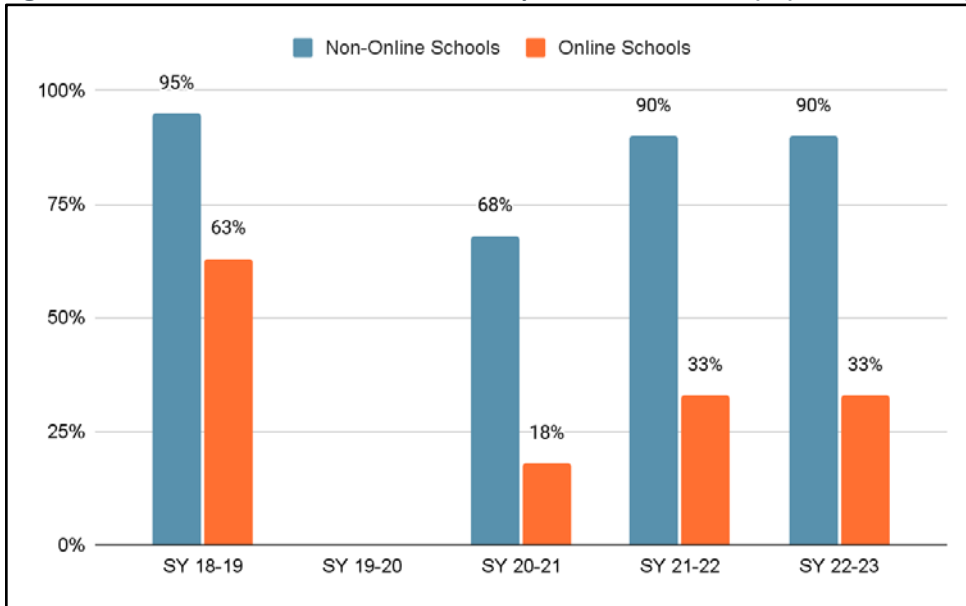
Table 16 includes the participation rates in both the 2023 CMAS ELA and Math assessments for each individual online school. Similar to the CMAS assessment participation rate, online schools also show lower participation rates in the PSAT and SAT exams as shown by Figures 12 and 13.

Figure 10: Colorado CMAS English Language Arts Participation: School Years (SY) 2018–19 through 2022–23



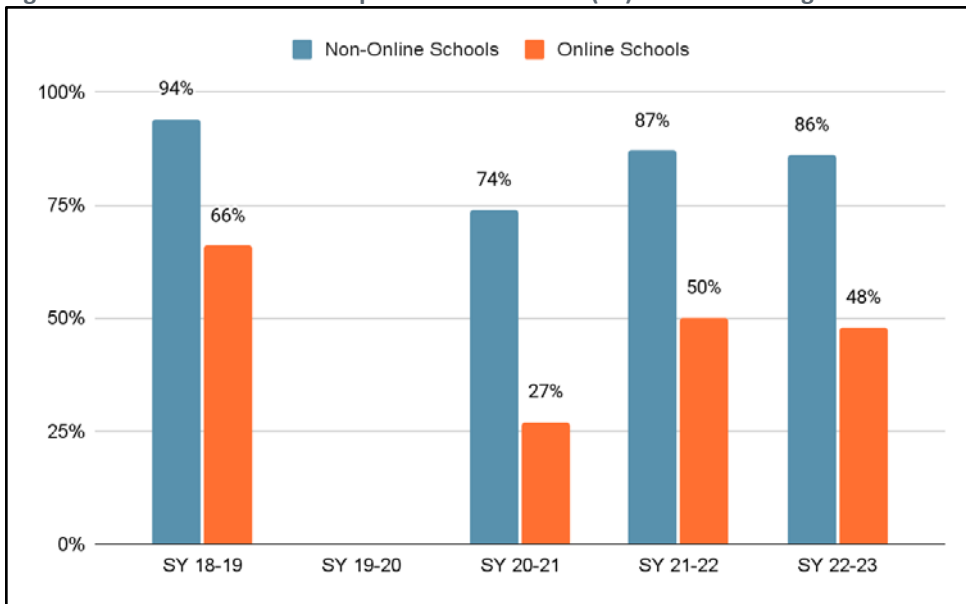
Note: CMAS assessments were not administered in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Figure 11: Colorado CMAS Mathematics Participation: School Years (SY) 2018–19 through 2022–23



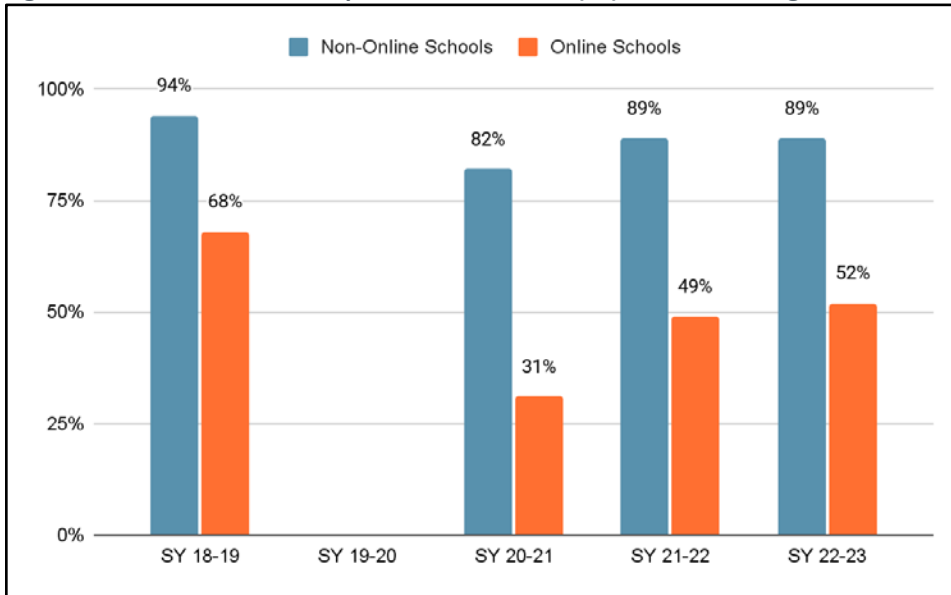
Note: CMAS assessments were not administered in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Figure 12: Colorado PSAT Participation: School Years (SY) 2018–19 through 2022–23



Note: PSAT assessments were not administered in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Figure 13: Colorado SAT Participation: School Years (SY) 2018–19 through 2022–23



Note: SAT assessments were not administered in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Table 16: 2022-23 ELA and Math CMAS Participation by Online School

Online School	ELA Participation Rate	Math Participation Rate
Alamosa Online	93.8%	93.8%
D60 Online School	91.9%	91.9%
Village High School	91.9%	91.9%
Peak Virtual Academy	91.2%	91.2%
Peyton Online Academy	88.9%	88.9%
70 Online	87.6%	87.7%
Pikes Peak Early College	87.6%	87.6%
Vision Charter Academy	86.7%	86.7%
TCA College Pathways	83.9%	83.9%
D3 My Way Virtual School	82.9%	82.9%
St. Vrain Virtual High School	82.4%	82.4%
HOPE Online Learning Academy High School	80.4%	80.4%
Delta Online Learning Academy	80.0%	80.0%
HOPE Online Learning Academy Middle School	79.5%	82.5%
World Academy High School	78.8%	78.8%
Center Virtual Academy	76.5%	76.5%
Springs Studio for Academic Excellence	75.2%	75.2%
Pathways Future Center	70.2%	70.2%
Aspire Online Academy	70.1%	70.1%
GOAL Academy	67.5%	67.5%
Weld Re-3J Online Innovations	65.7%	65.7%
World Academy Elementary School	64.3%	64.3%



Online School	ELA Participation Rate	Math Participation Rate
Paragon Learning Center	61.2%	61.2%
eDCSD	57.8%	57.8%
PSD Global Academy	57.6%	57.6%
Denver Online	55.9%	56.1%
District 6 Online Academy	55.2%	54.9%
Grand River Academy	51.7%	51.7%
Mapleton Online	48.4%	48.4%
Achieve Online	46.6%	47.7%
Spark Online Academy	45.2%	46.0%
JeffCo Remote Learning Program	43.6%	43.8%
Cherry Creek Elevation	43.4%	42.5%
Journey K8	42.7%	42.7%
Colorado Preparatory Academy High School	42.6%	42.6%
Leadership Academy of Colorado	39.6%	39.6%
Five Star Online Academy	38.0%	36.7%
Southwest Colorado eSchool	37.9%	37.9%
Colorado Preparatory Academy Elementary School	37.8%	37.5%
St. Vrain LaunchED Virtual Academy	35.4%	35.6%
Colorado Summit Connections Academy	35.0%	34.8%
Jeffco Virtual Academy	34.5%	34.5%
Monte Vista On-Line Academy	34.5%	34.5%
Holyoke Alternative School	33.3%	28.6%
Academy of Las Animas Online School	32.8%	31.5%
Colorado Preparatory Academy Middle School	32.5%	32.1%
Branson School Online	31.0%	31.4%
Colorado Connections Academy @ Durango	30.8%	30.6%
Colorado Connections Academy	29.4%	29.2%
Colorado Virtual Academy High School	29.4%	29.2%
World Academy Middle School	27.3%	27.3%
Pikes Peak Online School	27.2%	27.2%
Colorado Early Colleges Online Campus	24.1%	23.0%
Destinations Career Academy of Colorado	24.0%	24.0%
Boulder Universal	19.5%	20.1%
27J Online Academy	19.1%	18.8%
Astravo Online Academy High School	11.5%	11.5%
Astravo Online Academy Middle School	7.7%	7.3%
Astravo Online Academy Elementary School	5.7%	4.9%
Colorado Virtual Academy	3.9%	3.9%
Colorado Virtual Academy Middle School	3.5%	3.5%
Colorado Online High School	2.4%	2.4%
Colorado Online Middle School	0.8%	0.8%

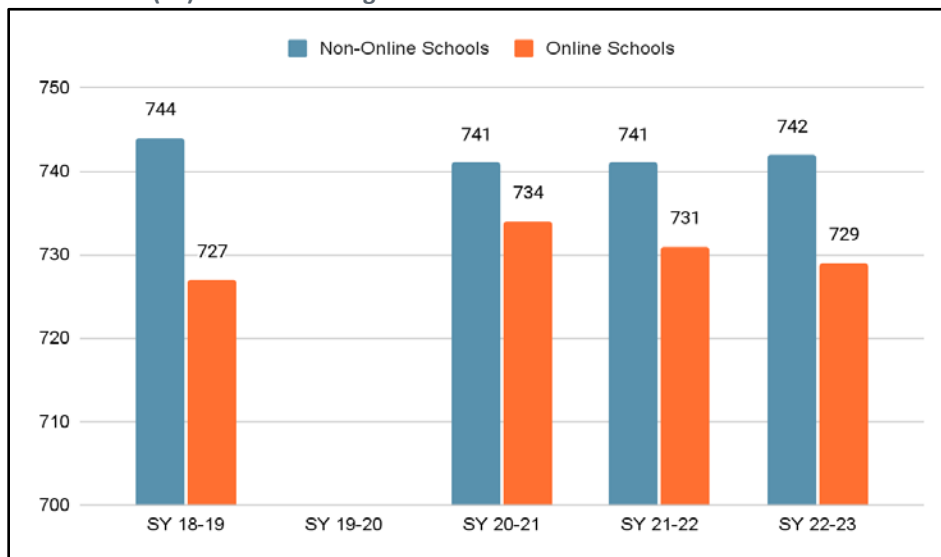
Mean Scale Scores

Prior to 2016, the percentage of students meeting or exceeding grade level expectations was utilized for performance frameworks for accountability determinations. This method was also used in previous Online Summary Reports to provide information about how students enrolled in online schools performed as compared to students enrolled in non-online schools. Beginning in the fall of 2016, the use of mean scale scores for CMAS was included in both the district and school performance frameworks and replaced the use of the percentage of students achieving benchmarks on state assessments for school and district accountability purposes.

Online Student Mean Scale Scores vs. Non-Online Mean Scale Scores

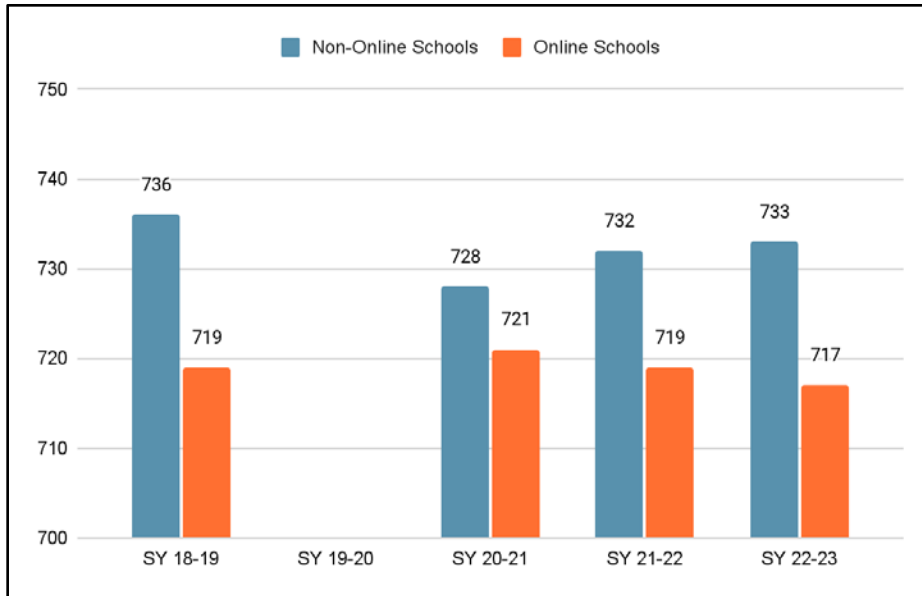
Figures 14 and 15 show that the mean scale scores for students enrolled and participating in state assessments in online schools are lower than non-online students in the CMAS areas of English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics. Note the low rates of participation when interpreting these results. Student performance is relatively flat in the areas of ELA and Math. CMAS Science was informational only in 2023 (due to assessment transition) and was not released publicly, therefore CMAS Science has been omitted from the figures below.

Figure 14: CMAS English Language Arts Mean Scale Scores: School Years (SY) 2018–19 through 2022–23



Note: CMAS assessments were not administered in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Figure 15: CMAS English Language Arts Median Growth Percentiles: School Years (SY) 2018–19 through 2022–23



Note: CMAS assessments were not administered in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Median Growth Percentiles (MGP)

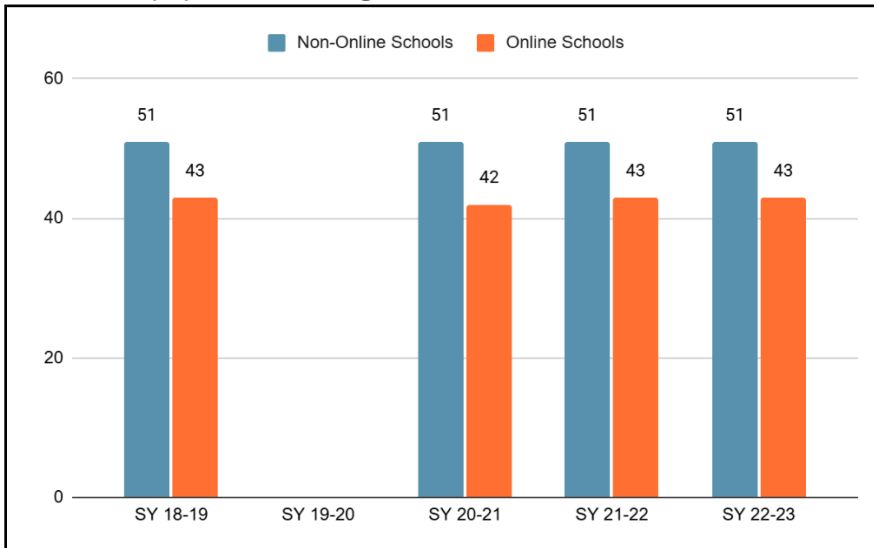
A median growth percentile (MGP) summarizes student growth rates as they relate to a larger group of students. The median is calculated by taking the individual student growth percentiles of all the students in the group being analyzed, ordering them from lowest to highest, and identifying the middle score, the median. Similar to an “average”, a median summarizes the group in a single number that is fairly calculated to reflect the group as a whole.

The median growth percentile is used as a metric to describe how well a group of students is growing in comparison with other groups. These can be groups of students in the same place at the same time, such as all the students in a school, or they can be other groupings, such as all the Hispanic 7th grade students across Colorado. The median growth percentile describes how much growth a group as a whole is achieving. Knowing these growth levels can help provide insight into how a school or program is helping students to progress in learning the Colorado Academic Standards (CAS) compared to the prior year. An MGP of 50 denotes growth levels that are considered to be typical growth for a group of students.

Online Student MGP vs. State MGP

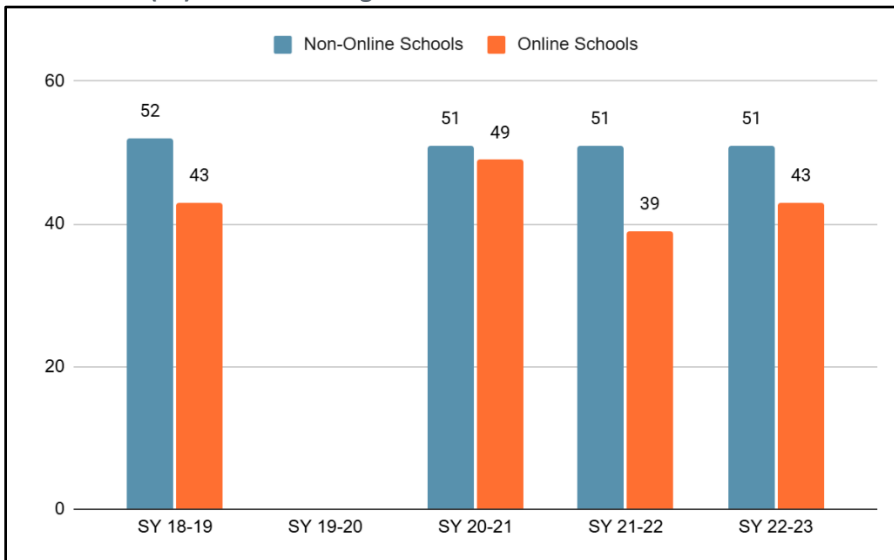
Figures 16 and 17 below show that the MGP for students enrolled in online schools is lower than for non-online students in the areas of English Language Arts and Mathematics. It is worth noting that student growth percentile (SGP) calculations require two concurrent years of assessment data for that student. Because online schools tend to have lower overall assessment participation as described previously, this means that SGPs can be calculated for fewer students as compared to students in non-online schools.

Figure 16: CMAS English Language Arts Median Growth Percentiles: School Years (SY) 2018–19 through 2022–23



Note: CMAS assessments were not administered in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Figure 17: CMAS Mathematics Median Growth Percentiles: School Years (SY) 2018–19 through 2022–23



Note: CMAS assessments were not administered in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Colorado PSAT and SAT Achievement and Growth

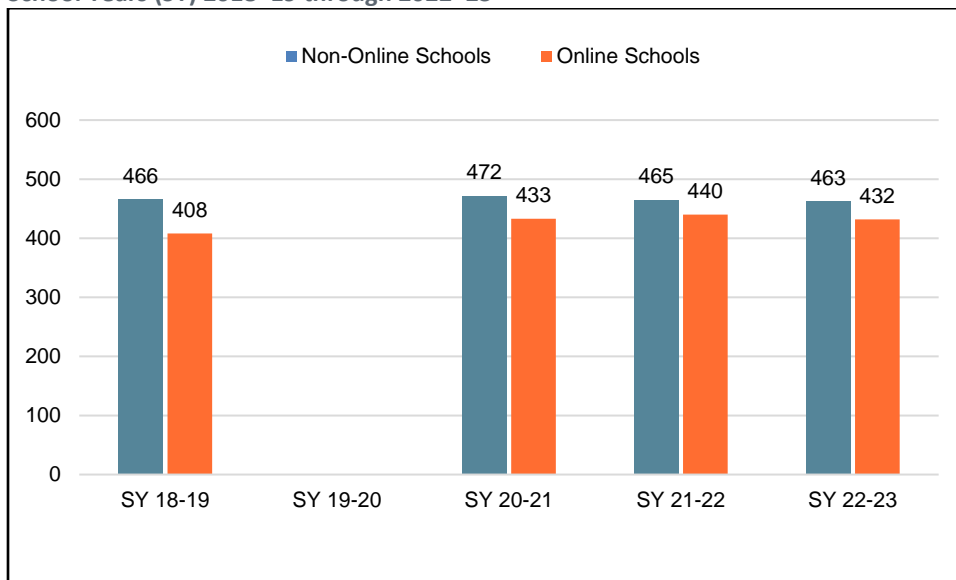
The Colorado Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) is aligned to the Colorado Academic Standards and focuses on the knowledge, skills, and understanding that have been identified by research as the most important for college and career readiness. The PSAT is taken by 9th and 10th graders and tests in the areas of

Evidence Based Reading and Writing and Mathematics. The PSAT is also viewed as preparation for the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and can also identify a student’s potential for success in advanced coursework.

In the years that Colorado students have taken the PSAT and SAT, mean scale scores for students in online schools have been lower than mean scale scores for students in non-online schools. Figures 20, 21, 22, and 23 show student mean scale score comparisons in the content areas of Evidence-Based Reading & Writing and Mathematics for both PSAT and SAT.

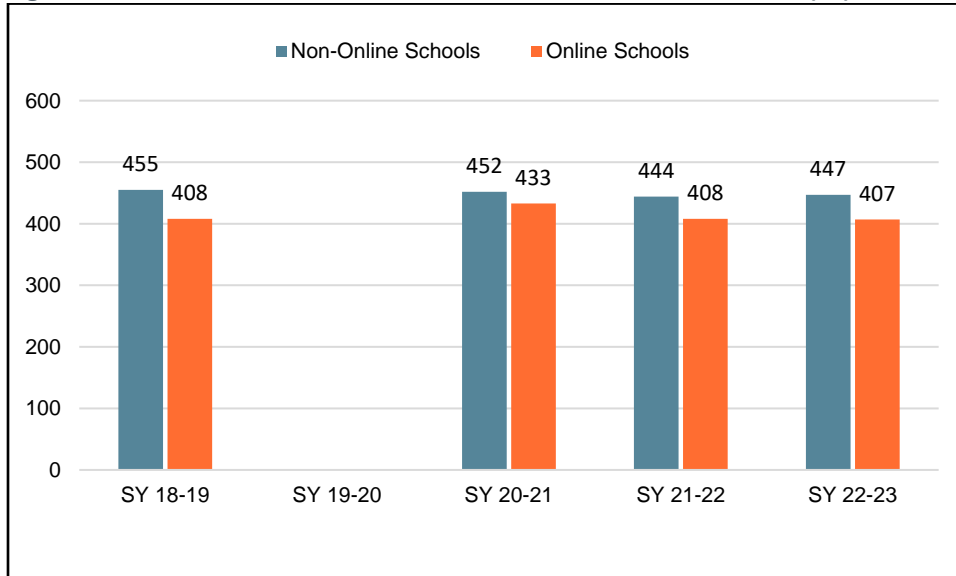
Student growth percentiles for PSAT performance were calculated in 2019, 2021, 2022, and 2023. For the SAT, growth data are unavailable for 2020 and 2021 due to pandemic-related disruptions. Based on the limited available data, growth among students in online schools is lower than that of students in non-online schools.

Figure 20: Colorado PSAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing (EBRW) Mean Scale Scores: School Years (SY) 2018–19 through 2022–23



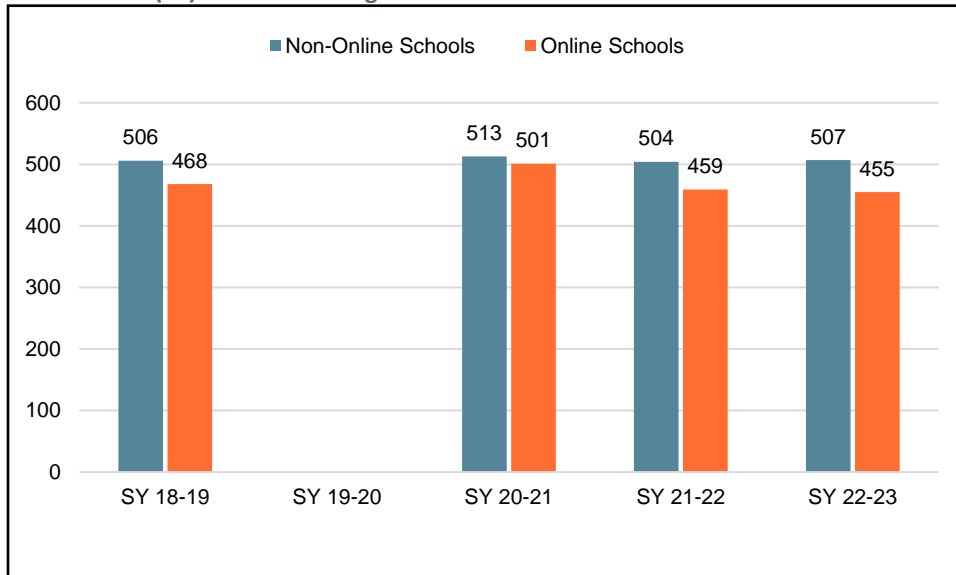
Note: PSAT assessments were not administered in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Figure 21: Colorado PSAT Mathematics Mean Scale Scores: School Years (SY) 2018–19 through 2022–23



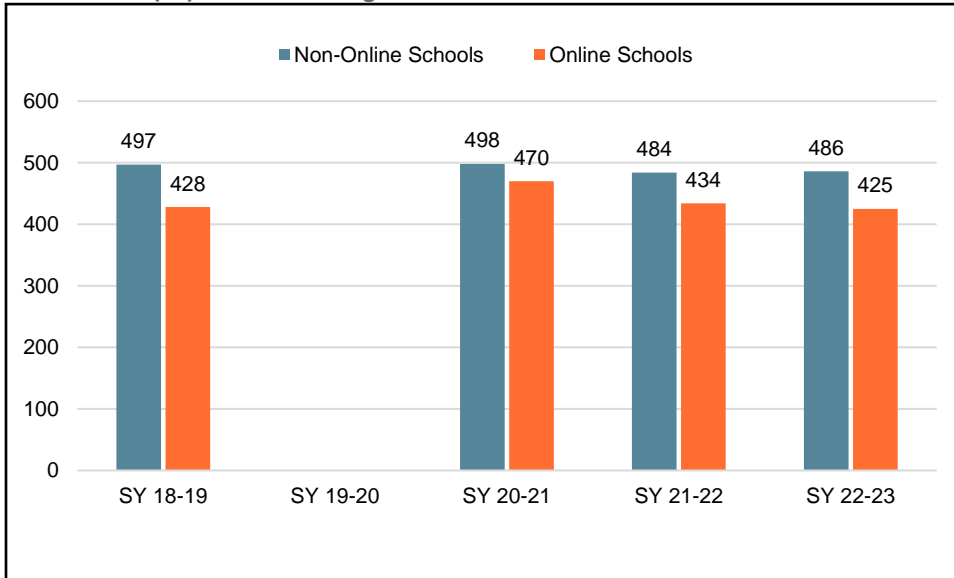
Note: PSAT assessments were not administered in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Figure 22: Colorado SAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing (EBRW) Mean Scale Scores: School Years (SY) 2018–19 through 2022–23



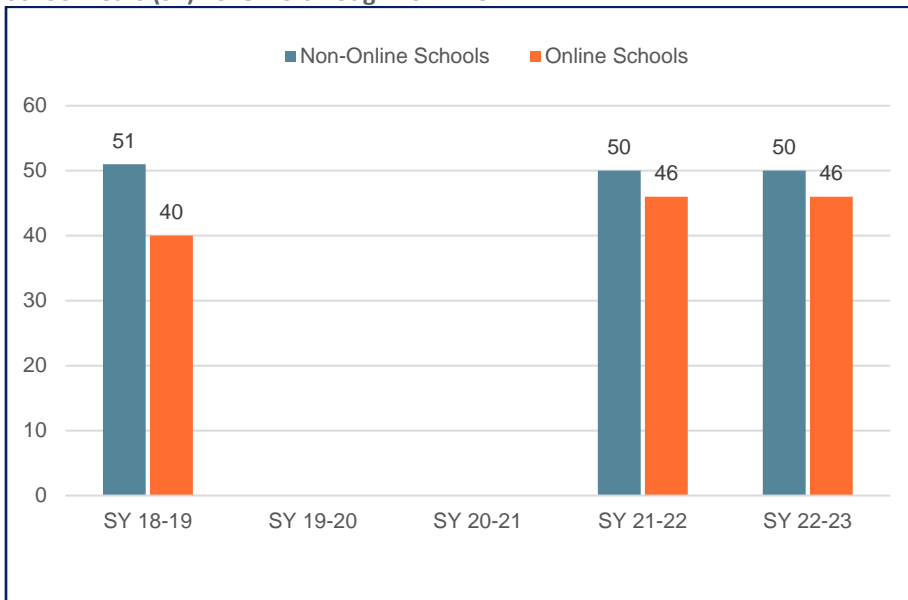
Note: SAT assessments were not administered in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Figure 23: Colorado SAT Mathematics Mean Scale Scores:
School Years (SY) 2018–19 through 2022–23**



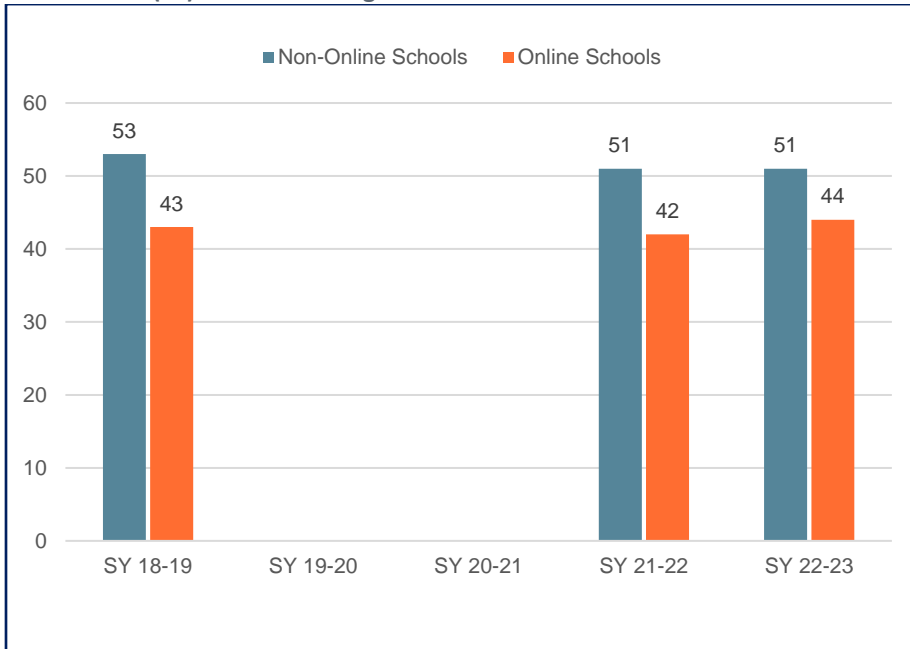
Note: SAT assessments were not administered in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Figure 24: Colorado PSAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing (EBRW) Median Growth Percentiles:
School Years (SY) 2018–19 through 2022–23**



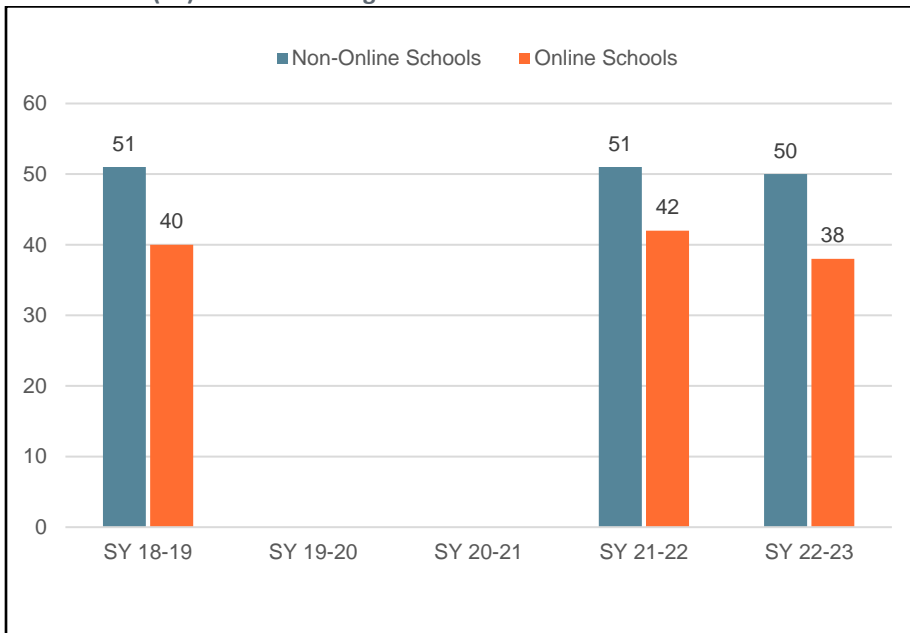
Note: PSAT assessments were not administered in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
Due to the pandemic disruptions, no state data was publicly reported in 2020 or 2021.

Figure 25: Colorado PSAT Mathematics Median Growth Percentiles: School Years (SY) 2018–19 through 2022–23



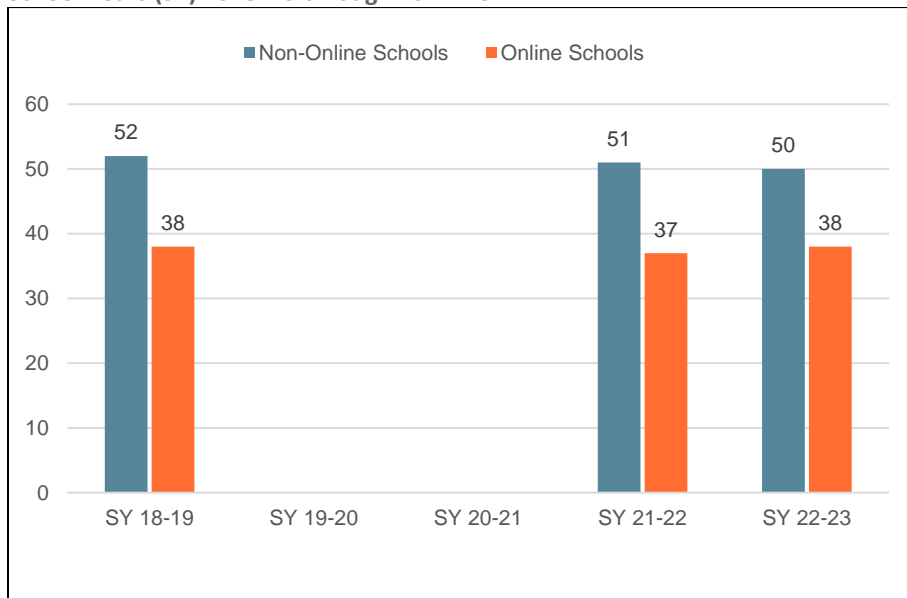
Note: PSAT assessments were not administered in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to the pandemic disruptions, no state data was publicly reported in 2020 or 2021.

Figure 26: Colorado SAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing (EBRW) Median Growth Percentiles: School Years (SY) 2018–19 through 2022–23



Note: SAT assessments were not administered in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to the pandemic disruptions, no state data was publicly reported in 2020 or 2021.

**Figure 27: Colorado SAT Mathematics Median Growth Percentiles:
School Years (SY) 2018–19 through 2022–23**



Note: SAT assessments were not administered in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to the pandemic disruptions, no state data was publicly reported in 2020 or 2021.

Accountability

Background

The Education Accountability Act of 2009 (S.B. 09-163) authorizes the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) to conduct an annual review of the performance of public schools and districts in the state. Each year, CDE assigns districts an accreditation rating and makes recommendations for school plan types to the State Board of Education. The School Performance Framework (SPF) is an annual report for each public school that summarizes a school’s performance based on ratings for achievement and growth on state assessments. For high schools, postsecondary measures include graduation rates, drop-out rates, college entrance exams, and college matriculation rates. The SPF includes the annual plan type assignment that the school has earned based on these measures.

The ratings that are included on the SPF are determined by the percentage of points earned on three performance indicators which are Achievement, Growth, and Post-Secondary and Workforce Readiness (PWR). If a school serves elementary or middle school grade levels, it is only evaluated on Achievement (40% of overall SPF points) and Growth (60% of overall SPF points). Schools that serve high school grade levels are evaluated on Achievement (30% of overall SPF points), Growth (40% of overall SPF points), and PWR (30% of overall SPF points). Each indicator is composed of different sub-indicators. Points are assigned at the sub-indicator level and then are aggregated at the performance indicator level and ultimately roll up to an overall school rating and plan type assignment.

The school plan types that a school may be assigned on the SPF are Performance, Improvement, Priority Improvement, and Turnaround. A school may not have the required minimum number of tested students

required to meet reporting thresholds for a performance indicator. In these cases, the school's SPF will state that the school has received an "Insufficient State Data" rating.

Schools and districts are accountable for meeting minimum participation rates in the state assessments. If a school or district falls below the 95 percent accountability participation rate (i.e., for reasons other than parent excusal) in two or more content areas (English language arts/Evidence-based reading and writing, math, science), then the district's accreditation rating or school's plan type will be lowered by one level and noted as "DDP" which means, "Decreased Due to Participation."

For more information about state accountability, visit [CDE State Accountability](#).

Current Performance Framework Plan Assignments for Online Schools

As created under the Education Accountability Act of 2009, the accountability system in Colorado is based on the belief that every student should receive an excellent education and graduate ready to succeed. Successful schools and districts are recognized and serve as models, while those that are struggling receive support.

In Colorado, online schools are held to the same reporting and accountability standards as any public school in the state and are assigned a school plan type rating based on the same applicable rating formula. Single-district online programs are not considered schools and accountability for the students is held at the brick-and-mortar school within the school district that serves as the official enrollment school for the student.

If a school or district receives a plan type of Priority Improvement or Turnaround for five consecutive years, then the State Board of Education must direct action to the local board of education. All schools and districts with an identified need through the state accountability system (i.e., plan type of Priority Improvement or Turnaround) are considered to be on "Performance Watch." Additionally, schools and districts that have been on the accountability clock for at least two years and have earned a rating of Improvement are deemed to be "on watch" until they have earned a rating of Improvement or Performance for two consecutive years to exit the clock. If a school on "performance watch" receives an Insufficient State Data rating, then the school will be "on hold."

In 2023, 6.3% percent of online schools (Figure 26) were assigned a school plan type rating of Priority Improvement or Turnaround and were on the accountability clock. This is a continued decrease compared to the 2014 report, when 46% of all online schools were assigned the two lowest school plan types, and the 2019 report when 16% of all online schools were assigned the two lowest school plan types. Another notable difference is that 56% of schools did not receive a rating due to having insufficient state data.

Figure 28: Distribution of Performance Ratings for Online Schools in Colorado in 2023

Table 17 displays the number of schools with ratings of Priority Improvement, Turnaround, or Insufficient State Data (ISD) that are on the Performance Watch. (There are additional schools with ISD that are not on Performance Watch.)

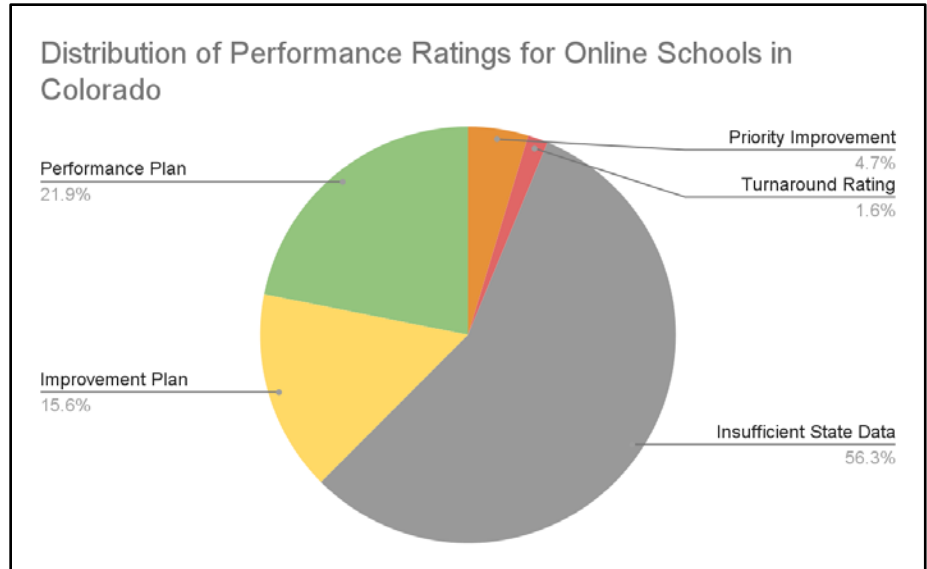


Table 17: Online Schools on Performance Watch by Year⁹

SPF Rating	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Priority Improvement Rating	3	3	2	1	3
Turnaround Rating	N/A	N/A	N/A	1	1
Insufficient State Data	1	1	1	4	3
Total	4	4	3	6	7

School Performance Frameworks 2019-Present

In 2019-20 and 2020-21, School Performance Frameworks (SPF) were paused due to COVID-19. Due to the pause, the School Performance Framework ratings from 2019 were rolled over to the year 2020 and then subsequently rolled over for the 2021-22 frameworks as well. After the two-year pause in developing the performance frameworks, the state transitioned back to calculating and publishing performance frameworks. In 2022, a “Transitional Framework” provided important information regarding the progress of students towards meeting state academic standards but included a note that conditions unique to the challenges of COVID-19 might impact the interpretation of the framework results. In 2022, schools on Performance Watch were paused from advancing on or off the accountability clock. In 2023, there was a return to the traditional rating and clock progression process.

When the last Online Summary Report was published in 2019, there were seven multi-district online schools and one single-district online school that were on Performance Watch with ratings of either Priority Improvement or Turnaround for the 2017-2018 school year. In addition, there was one online school with a rating of Insufficient

⁹ Ratings for both 2020 and 2021 were rolled over from 2019 due to the COVID-19 pandemic accountability pause.

State Data on the accountability clock. For the 2022-2023 school year, three multi-district online schools and one single-district online school were assigned ratings of either Priority Improvement or Turnaround and are on the accountability clock. In addition, there are three online schools that have a rating of Insufficient State Data and are paused on the accountability clock. Table 15 shows plan type ratings for each online school over the last five years.

Table 18: School Performance Framework Ratings by Online School from 2018-2023¹⁰

Key					
P = Performance	I = Improvement				
PI = Priority Improvement	T= Turnaround				
AEC = Alternative Education Campus	NR-OP = No SPF Rating. Operating As Online Program				
DDP = Decreased Due to Participation	NSCO = New School. Previously Part of Other School. Data Carried Over For Current Plan Type.				
IISD = Insufficient State Data	NSDA= New School, District Assigned Plan Type				
IDDA = Insufficient Data, District Assigned Plan Type	Underlined = Revised				
LP = Low Participation	STP = Small Tested Population				
Online School by Authorizer	SPF 2019	SPF 2020	SPF 2021	SPF 2022	SPF 2023
ACADEMY 20					
TCA College Pathways	P-LP	P-LP	P	P-LP	P-LP
Village High School	P-LP	P-LP	P	P-LP	P-LP
Village Middle School	P-LP	P-LP	P	ISD-LP	ISD-LP
ADAMS 12 FIVE STAR SCHOOLS					
Pathways Future Center	AEC:P	AEC:P	AEC:P	AEC:P	AEC:P
Five Star Online Academy				P-NSDA	ISD-LP
ALAMOSA RE-11J					
Alamosa Online		ISD-NSDA	ISD	ISD-LP	ISD-LP
BOULDER VALLEY RE 2					
Boulder Universal	I-DDP	I-DDP	I	ISD-LP	ISD-LP
BRANSON REORGANIZED 82					
Branson School Online	<u>P-LP</u>	P-LP	P-LP	ISD-LP	ISD-LP-DDP
BYERS 32J					
Astravo Online Academy Elementary School	P-IDDA	P	P	ISD-LP	ISD-LP
Astravo Online Academy High School	ISD-LP	ISD-LP	ISD	ISD-LP	ISD-LP
Astravo Online Academy Middle School	ISD-LP	ISD-LP	ISD	ISD-LP	ISD-LP
Colorado Online High School	<u>I-LP</u>	I-LP	I	ISD-LP	ISD-LP
Colorado Online Middle School	<u>I-LP</u>	I-LP	I	ISD-LP	ISD-LP
Colorado Virtual Academy	<u>I-LP</u>	I-LP	I	ISD-LP	ISD-LP
Colorado Virtual Academy High School	<u>P-LP</u>	P-LP	P	ISD-LP	ISD-LP
Colorado Virtual Academy Middle School	P-LP	P-LP	P	ISD-LP	ISD-LP

¹⁰ Ratings for both 2020 and 2021 were rolled over from 2019 due to the COVID-19 pandemic accountability pause.



Online School by Authorizer	SPF 2019	SPF 2020	SPF 2021	SPF 2022	SPF 2023
CENTER 26 JT					
Center Virtual Academy	I-IDDA	I	I	ISD-LP-IDDA	ISD-LP
CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE (CSI)					
Colorado Early Colleges Online Campus				P-NSDA	ISD-LP
CHERRY CREEK 5					
Cherry Creek Elevation	P-NSDA	P	P	ISD-LP	I-DP
COLORADO SPRINGS 11					
Achieve Online	AEC:P	AEC:P	AEC:P	AEC:P	AEC:P
Spark Online Academy			ISD-NSDA	ISD-LP	ISD-LP
DELTA COUNTY 50(J)					
Delta Online Learning Academy			ISD-NSDA	ISD-LP	CLOSED
Vision Charter Academy	*	*	*	ISD-LP	P-LP
DENVER COUNTY 1					
Denver Online	I-LP	I-LP	ISD-LP	ISD-LP	ISD-LP
DISTRICT 49					
GOAL Academy	AEC:P	AEC:P	AEC:P	AEC:P	AEC:I
Pikes Peak Early College	P	P	P	P-LP	P-LP
Spring Studio for Academic Excellence	P-LP	P-LP	P-LP	ISD-LP	ISD-LP
DOUGLAS COUNTY RE 1					
HOPE Online Learning Academy High School	AEC:P	AEC:P	AEC:P	AEC:P	AEC:P
HOPE Online Learning Academy Middle School	I	I	I	PI-LP	PI-LP
eDCSD	ISD-LP	ISD-LP	ISD-LP	ISD-LP	ISD-LP
DURANGO 9					
Colorado Connections Academy @ Durango	I-LP	I-LP	I-LP	ISD-LP	I-LP
EAGLE COUNTY RE 50					
World Academy Elementary School				ISD-NSDA	ISD-IDDA
World Academy High School	ISD-LP	ISD-LP	ISD-LP	ISD-LP	ISD-LP
World Academy Middle School				ISD-NSDA	ISD-IDDA
EDUCATION RE ENVISIONED BOCES					
Colorado Preparatory Academy Elementary School	I-LP	I-LP	I	T-LP	I-LP
Colorado Preparatory Academy High School	P-LP	P-LP	P	I-LP	I-LP
Colorado Preparatory Academy Middle School	I-LP	I-LP	I	I-LP	P-LP
Colorado Summit Connections Academy			P-NSCO	ISD-LP	ISD-LP
Pikes Peak Online School	AEC: P	AEC: P	AEC: P	AEC: P	AEC: P
Williamsburg Academy of Colorado				P-NSDA	ISD-LP
GREELEY 6					
District 6 Online Academy			P-NSDA	ISD-LP	T-DDP
HANOVER 28					
Hanover Online Academy	ISD-IDDA	ISD	ISD	ISD-STP	ISD-IDDA



Online School by Authorizer	SPF 2019	SPF 2020	SPF 2021	SPF 2022	SPF 2023
	-IDDA				
	HARRISON 2				
Aspire Online Academy			P-NSDA	ISD-LP	ISD-LP
	HOLYOKE RE-1J				
Holyoke Alternative School	ISD-IDDA	ISD	ISD	ISD-STP	ISD-LP
	JEFFERSON COUNTY R-1				
JeffCo Remote Learning Program				P-NSDA	PI-DDP
Jeffco Virtual Academy	AEC-P	AEC-P	AEC-P	AEC-P	AEC-P
	JULESBURG RE-1				
Destinations Career Academy of Colorado	I-LP	I-LP	I	ISD-LP	P-LP
	LAS ANIMAS RE-1				
Academy of Las Animas Online School	AEC:PI	AEC:PI	AEC:PI	AEC:ISD	AEC:I
	MAPLETON 1				
Mapleton Online				P-NSDA	ISD-LP
	MESA COUNTY VALLEY 51				
Grand River Academy	I-LP	I-LP	I	ISD-LP	PI-DDP
	MONTE VISTA C-8				
Monte Vista On-Line Academy	ISD-LP	ISD-LP	ISD	ISD-LP	ISD-LP
	MONTROSE COUNTY RE-1J				
Peak Virtual Academy	P	P	P	ISD-LP	P-LP
	PEYTON 23 JT				
Peyton Online Academy	PI-LP	PI-LP	PI	ISD	ISD-LP
	POUDRE R-1				
PSD Global Academy	P-LP	P-LP	P	ISD-LP	ISD-LP
	PUEBLO CITY 60				
D60 Online School			P-NSDA	ISD-LP	I-LP
Paragon Learning Center	AEC:PI	AEC:PI	AEC:I	AEC:I	AEC:P
	PUEBLO COUNTY 70				
70 Online	AEC:P	AEC:P	AEC:P	AEC:I	AEC:P
	SAN JUAN BOCES				
Southwest Colorado eSchool	I-LP	I-LP	I	ISD-LP	ISD-LP
	SCHOOL DISTRICT 27J				
27J Online Academy			ISD-NSDA	ISD-LP	ISD-LP
Colorado Connections @ 27J	P-LP	P-LP	P	ISD-LP	I-LP
	ST VRAIN VALLEY RE1J				
St. Vrain LaunchED Virtual Academy			P-NSDA	ISD-LP	ISD-LP
St. Vrain Virtual High School	AEC:P	AEC:P	AEC:P	AEC:ISD	AEC:P
	WELD COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT				
Weld Re-3J Online Innovations				ISD-NSDA	ISD-LP

Online School by Authorizer	SPF 2019	SPF 2020	SPF 2021	SPF 2022	SPF 2023
WIDEFIELD 3					
The Haven School			P-NSDA	ISD-LP	ISD-LP

*School operated as a non-online school prior to 2022

Accountability for Alternative Education Campuses

An Alternative Education Campus (AEC) is defined in statute as a school that has a specialized mission to serve a high-risk student population and has a nontraditional instructional delivery. As such, 90 percent of the student population must meet one or more of the conditions as outlined in statute to qualify for designation as an AEC. As outlined in statute (§22-7-604.5, C.R.S.), a high-risk student is a student that meets one or more of the following conditions:

- Juvenile delinquency adjudication
- Dropped out of school
- Expelled from school
- History of personal drug use or alcohol use
- History of personal gang involvement
- History of child abuse or neglect/foster care
- Has a parent or guardian in prison
- Has an individualized education plan
- Family history of domestic violence
- Repeated school suspensions
- Pregnant or parenting
- Migrant child
- Homeless child
- History of serious psychiatric or behavioral disorder
- Over-age, under-credited

The Education Accountability Act authorizes the CDE to conduct a distinct performance review, with additional indicators and adjusted expectations, for those schools that meet the definition of an AEC. In order to distinguish between school types in a final SPF rating, all AECs will have “AEC” noted in the rating name. For example, rather than having a rating of “Performance” an AEC will receive a rating of “AEC: Performance”.

In addition to the three common indicators included on the traditional SPF of Academic Achievement (15 percent), Academic Growth (35 percent), and Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness (30 percent), schools that are designated as AECs have the additional required measure of Student Engagement (20 percent). The Student Engagement indicator is defined as a student’s sense of belonging, safety and involvement in school that leads to academic achievement, regular attendance, and postsecondary and workforce readiness.

Consistent with the previous 2019 report publication, for the 2023-24 school year, 7 multi-district online schools and 3 single-district online schools were designated as AECs. These schools are listed in Table 19 below:

Table 19: Online Schools with AEC Designation for the 2023-24 School Year

Authorizer	Online School	Online Type
Adams 12 Five Star Schools	Pathways Future Center	Single District
Colorado Springs School District 11	Achieve Online	Multi-District
Douglas County School District	HOPE Online Learning Academy High School	Multi-District
Education reEnvisioned BOCES District 49	Pikes Peak Online School	Multi-District
	GOAL Academy	Multi-District



Jeffco Public Schools	Jeffco Virtual Academy	Multi-District
Las Animas School District	Academy of Las Animas Online School	Multi-District
Pueblo City 60	Paragon Learning Center	Single District
Pueblo County School District 70	70 Online	Multi-District
St. Vrain Valley School District	St. Vrain Virtual High School	Single-District

Alternative Education Campus Ratings

In the 2022-23 school year, seven multi-district online schools and three single-district online schools were designated as Alternative Education Campuses (AECs). Seven online schools that were designated as AECs that same year received a rating of AEC: Performance and three online schools received a rating of AEC: Improvement. No AEC online school received the lowest ratings of AEC: Priority Improvement or AEC: Turnaround. Table 20 below shows the 2023 SPF rating for each online school designated as an AEC.

Table 20: 2022-23 Online School SPF Ratings for Schools with AEC Designation

Authorizer	Online School	Online Type	2023 SPF Rating
Adams 12 Five Star Schools	Pathways Future Center	Single-District	AEC: Performance
Colorado Springs School District 11	Achieve Online	Multi-District	AEC: Performance
Douglas County School District	HOPE Online Learning Academy High School	Multi-District	AEC: Improvement
Education reEnvisioned BOCES	Pikes Peak Online School	Multi-District	AEC: Performance
El Paso County Colorado School District 49	GOAL Academy	Multi-District	AEC: Improvement
Jeffco Public Schools	Jeffco Virtual Academy	Multi-District	AEC: Performance
Las Animas School District	Academy of Las Animas Online School	Multi-District	AEC: Improvement
Pueblo City 60	Paragon Learning Center	Single-District	AEC: Performance
Pueblo County School District 70	70 Online	Multi-District	AEC: Performance
St. Vrain Valley School District	St. Vrain Virtual High School	Single-District	AEC: Performance

Federal Accountability

In December of 2015, Congress reauthorized the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). The title of the reauthorized legislation, which replaces the No Child Left Behind Act, is the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Under Federal education law (i.e. ESSA), states must have a method for identifying schools for Comprehensive (CS), Targeted (TS), and Additional Targeted (ATS) support and improvement based on academic indicators and establish long-term goals and measures of interim progress for academic achievement, graduation rates, and progress toward English proficiency. For more information about identification and federal accountability, visit [CDE Federal Accountability](#).

In the 2023-24 school year, 18 online schools were identified under ESSA. Table 21 shows the online schools that were identified in the 2023-24 school year.

Table 21: Online Schools Identified as Comprehensive (CS), Targeted (TS), and Additional Targeted (ATS) in 2023-24



Authorizer	School Name	Overall Identification	Year of Identification (CS)	Year on Watch (CS)	Overall Identification Categories (TS/ATS only)
Durango 9-R	Colorado Connections Academy @ Durango	Comprehensive Support and Improvement - Low Graduation	Year 2		
School District 27J	Colorado Connections @ 27J	Comprehensive Support and Improvement - Low Graduation - On Watch		Year 2	
District 49	GOAL Academy	Comprehensive Support and Improvement - Low Graduation	Year 5		
Denver County 1	Denver Online	Comprehensive Support and Improvement - Low Graduation - On Watch		Year 1	
Douglas County Re 1	HOPE Online Learning Academy High School	Comprehensive Support and Improvement - Low Graduation - On Watch		Year 2	
Education reEnvisioned BOCES	Pikes Peak Online School	Comprehensive Support and Improvement - Low Graduation	Year 3		
Colorado Springs 11	Achieve Online	Targeted Support and Improvement			Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Meals, Hispanic or Latino
Byers 32J	Astravo Online Academy Elementary School	Comprehensive Support and Improvement - Lowest 5 Percent	Year 1		
Mesa County Valley 51	Grand River Academy	Targeted Support and Improvement			Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Meals, Students with Disabilities
Jefferson County R-1	Jeffco Virtual Academy	Comprehensive Support and Improvement - Low Graduation	Year 5		
Education reEnvisioned BOCES	Colorado Preparatory Academy High School	Comprehensive Support and Improvement - Low Graduation - On Watch		Year 2	
Byers 32J	Astravo Online Academy High School	Comprehensive Support and Improvement - Low Graduation	Year 2		
Poudre R-1	PSD Global Academy	Targeted Support and Improvement			Hispanic or Latino
Education reEnvisioned BOCES	Colorado Preparatory Academy Elementary School	2018-19 Additional Targeted Support and Improvement			Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Meals, Students with Disabilities, Hispanic or Latino, White, Aggregated Non-White



Authorizer	School Name	Overall Identification	Year of Identification (CS)	Year on Watch (CS)	Overall Identification Categories (TS/ATS only)
St Vrain Valley RE1J	St. Vrain Virtual High School	Comprehensive Support and Improvement - Low Graduation - On Watch		Year 2	
Center 26 JT	Center Virtual Academy	Targeted Support and Improvement			Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Meals
Pueblo City 60	Paragon Learning Center	Comprehensive Support and Improvement - Low Graduation	Year 2		
Holyoke Re-1J	Holyoke Alternative School	Targeted Support and Improvement			Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Meals

Post-Secondary and Workforce Readiness

Background

For online schools that serve high school grade levels, the Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness (PWR) indicator is included on the schools’ SPF. The PWR indicator exhibits how well a school is preparing its students for college and the workforce. The sub indicators for PWR include graduation rates, dropout rates, and matriculation rates. The PWR section also includes average scores on the SAT college entrance exams for Mathematics and Evidence Base Reading & Writing (EBRW).

As shown by enrollment figures, online schools predominantly serve high school students and, within the high school population, online schools predominantly serve students enrolled in either 11th or 12th grade. As such, post-secondary and workforce readiness indicators are of particular importance to online schools.

In the 2023 school year, of the online schools that serve high school students, 19 schools received a “Does Not Meet” rating and 17 schools received an “Approaching” rating for the PWR indicator on the SPF. Eight schools received a “Meets” rating and four schools received an “Exceeds” rating. 5 schools received an “Insufficient State Data” rating for the PWR indicator.

Table 22: Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness Indicators for Online Schools for 2023

PWR Indicators for Online Schools		
Rating	Non-AEC SPF 2023	AEC SPF 2023
Exceeds	4	3
Meets	8	6
Approaching	14	1
Does Not Meet	10	0
Insufficient State Data	5	0

In the multi-district online high schools that are designated as AECs, six schools received a “Meets” rating, three schools received an “Exceeds” rating, and one school received an “Approaching” rating for the PWR indicator.

The PWR indicator for AECs may also include supplemental measures that are not present within the PWR indicator for non-AEC schools.

Of the schools with an *Exceeds* rating on the PWR indicator, three schools have consistently received this rating from 2019 through 2023. Those schools are TCA College Pathways, Jeffco Virtual Academy (AEC), and St. Vrain Virtual High School (AEC).

Dropout Rate

The dropout rate for the state of Colorado is calculated annually. The rate represents the percentage of all students that are enrolled in grades 7th through 12 who leave school during a single school year but do not subsequently enroll in another school or educational program. The dropout rate is released a year after the school year in which the rate is calculated, which means that the dropout rate released in January 2023 is calculated based on data from the 2021-22 school year. Due to this lag, the most recent dropout rate included in this report is representative of data from the 2022-23 school year.

Pursuant to statute, a dropout is defined as a “person who leaves school for any reason, except death, before completion of a high school diploma or its equivalent, and who does not transfer to another public or private school or enroll in an approved home study program.” The state dropout rate is calculated by dividing the number of dropouts during the school year by the total number of students that were part of the same membership base at any time during the same school year.

As shown in Table 23 below, dropout rates for online schools were lower in the 2022-23 school year than for the previous four years and are trending down. Although percentages are going down, total number of students dropping out have mostly risen, which is reflective of the overall increase in the total number of students enrolled in online schools. Table 24 also shows that online schools have frequently seen high variability in their dropout rates year over year.

Table 23: Online Schools Aggregated Dropout Rate Compared to State Dropout Rate

School Year	State Dropout Rate	Online School Dropout Rate	Percentage Point Difference
2022 - 2023	2.1%	6.8%	4.7 Points Higher
2021 - 2022	2.2%	7.1%	4.9 Points Higher
2020 - 2021	1.8%	7.5%	5.7 Points Higher
2019 - 2020	1.8%	8.9%	7.1 Points Higher
2018 - 2019	2.0%	8.4%	6.4 Points Higher



Table 24: Dropout Rate by Online School from SY2018-19-SY2023-24¹¹

Online School	SY 2018-19	SY 2019-20	SY 2020-21	SY 2021-22	SY 2022-23
27J Online Academy				3.1%	3.8%
70 Online	4.3%	2.7%	2.9%	5.9%	4.3%
Academy of Las Animas Online School	4.3%	13.0%	11.6%	47.8%	9.2%
Achieve Blended Learning Academy	≤ 0.5%	≤ 10%	Closed	Closed	Closed
Achieve Online	5.1%	6.7%	4.9%	6.8%	5.5%
Alamosa Online			2.5%	1.0%	4.0%
Aspire Online Academy				1.7%	2.5%
Astravo Online Academy High School	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	0.7%
Astravo Online Academy Middle School	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%
Boulder Universal	3.8%	0.8%	≤ 0.5%	2.6%	1.9%
Branson School Online	3.5%	1.0%	1.2%	0.9%	0.7%
Center Virtual Academy	44.4%	16.0%	17.4%	47.6%	24.3%
Cherry Creek Elevation		2.3%	1.2%	≤ 0.5%	1.3%
Colorado Connections Academy	4.3%	1.5%	2.1%	1.6%	3.2%
Colorado Connections Academy @ Durango	5.0%	3.6%	1.8%	1.2%	1.3%
Colorado Early Colleges Online Campus					1.2%
Colorado Online High School	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%
Colorado Online Middle School	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%
Colorado Preparatory Academy High School	6.9%	2.7%	3.4%	1.9%	1.1%
Colorado Preparatory Academy Middle School	4.0%	2.0%	4.1%	2.3%	1.7%
Colorado Summit Connections Academy				2.4%	4.8%
Colorado Virtual Academy High School	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	1.0%
Colorado Virtual Academy Middle School	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%
D3 My Way Virtual School				2.10%	2.3%
D60 Online School				≤ 0.5%	2.4%
Delta Online Learning Academy				11.3%	20.6%
Denver Online	5.3%	8.9%	4.2%	4.7%	4.1%
Destinations Career Academy of Colorado	1.3%	2.4%	1.0%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%
District 6 Online Academy				2.0%	1.9%
eDCSD	1.8%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	2.3%	1.0%
Five Star Online Academy					1.9%
GOAL Academy	20.1%	22.4%	20.3%	21.7%	20.4%
Grand River Academy	4.8%	2.4%	4.4%	2.1%	4.6%
Hanover Online Academy	12.5%	≤ 10%	≤ 10%	≤ 10%	≤ 10%
Holyoke Alternative School	6.1%	5.4%	8.5%	4.8%	7.5%
HOPE Online Learning Academy High School	8.3%	8.7%	8.0%	9.0%	11.9%
HOPE Online Learning Academy Middle School	1.8%	1.8%	3.1%	1.0%	≤ 0.5%

¹¹ Data privacy guidelines have been applied to dropout rates to maintain student data privacy. For more detailed information about data privacy measures and methods, please see the CDE [Aggregate Data Privacy Guidelines](#)



Online School	SY 2018-19	SY 2019-20	SY 2020-21	SY 2021-22	SY 2022-23
Immersion Schools Science Technology Arts	4.3%	2.2%	3.0%	Closed	Closed
JeffCo Remote Learning Program					2.1%
Jeffco Virtual Academy	7.9%	4.6%	9.5%	3.3%	5.2%
Leadership Academy of Colorado					2.8%
Mapleton Online					9.2%
Monte Vista On-Line Academy	2.2%	0.8%	3.6%	2.3%	1.0%
Paragon Learning Center	9.7%	6.7%	9.3%	16.6%	15.2%
Pathways Future Center	14.5%	10.8%	21.0%	13.9%	13.9%
Peak Virtual Academy	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	2.7%	0.9%
Peyton Online Academy	3.4%	2.0%	6.7%	8.3%	≤ 0.5%
Pikes Peak Early College	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%
Pikes Peak Online School	19.7%	14.8%	14.0%	8.9%	8.9%
PSD Global Academy	3.9%	2.1%	3.9%	1.7%	1.0%
Southwest Colorado eSchool	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%
Spark Online Academy				≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%
Springs Studio for Academic Excellence	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	0.7%	0.7%
St. Vrain LaunchED Virtual Academy				1.5%	2.9%
St. Vrain Virtual High School	6.8%	7.7%	3.4%	5.0%	4.9%
TCA College Pathways	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%
Village High School	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%
Village Middle School	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%	≤ 0.5%
Vision Charter Academy					3.6%
Weld Re-3J Online Innovations					1.3%
World Academy High School	4.8%	9.8%	12.3%	10.2%	4.8%
World Academy Middle School					≤ 0.5%

Graduation Rate

In the 2009-10 school year, the United States Department of Education required states to implement a four-year graduation rate so that state to state comparisons would be consistent. This is also known as the “Anticipated Year of Graduation” (AYG) cohort formula. When a student enters the 9th grade, they are assigned an unchanging AYG.

The four-year graduation rate measures the percentage of students who graduate four years after entering 9th grade. Colorado recognizes that some students may need more time to complete their education and calculates five-, six-, and seven-year graduation rates as well (see Figure 28). The state four-year graduation rate for 2023 was 83.1 percent for the class of 2023. Of the 37 online schools that served high school students in the 2023-24 school year, 13 had higher graduation rates than the state percentage.

Figure 29: Graduation and Completion Rates for Online Schools from 2019-2023¹²

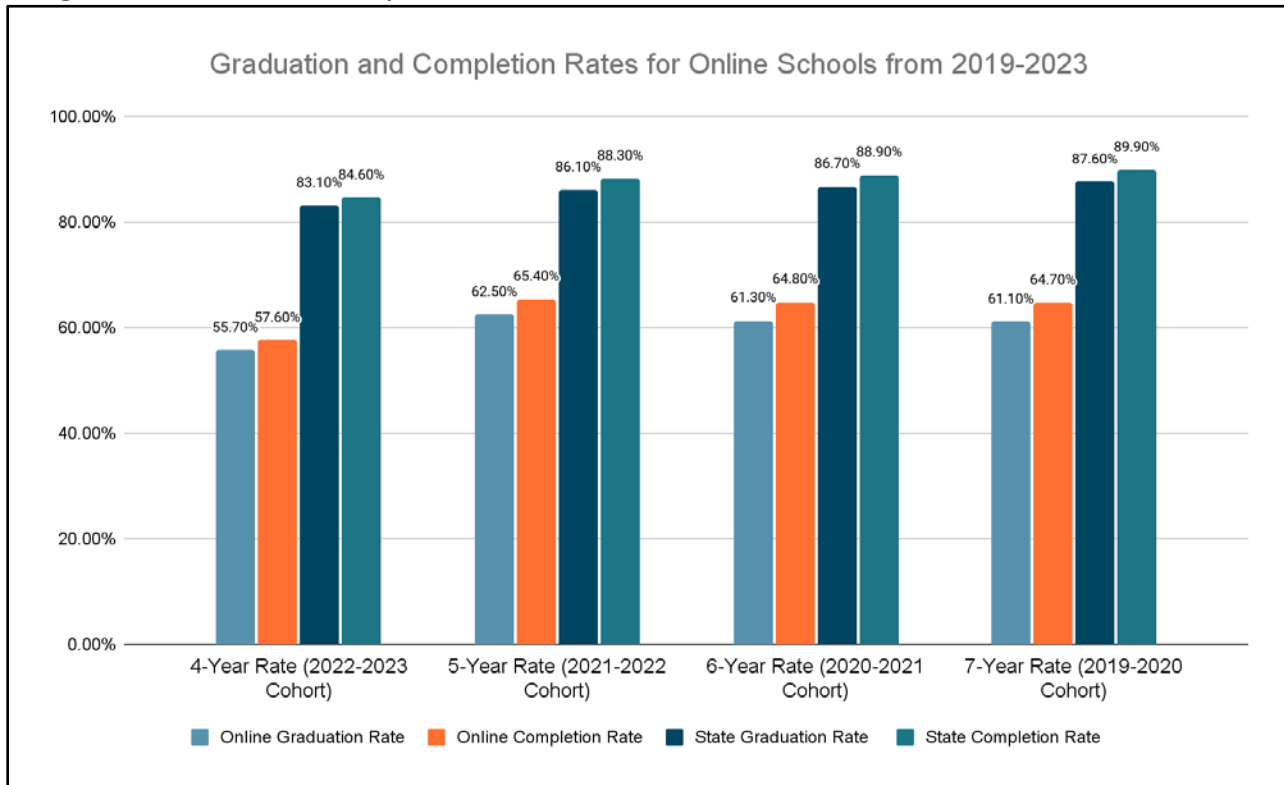
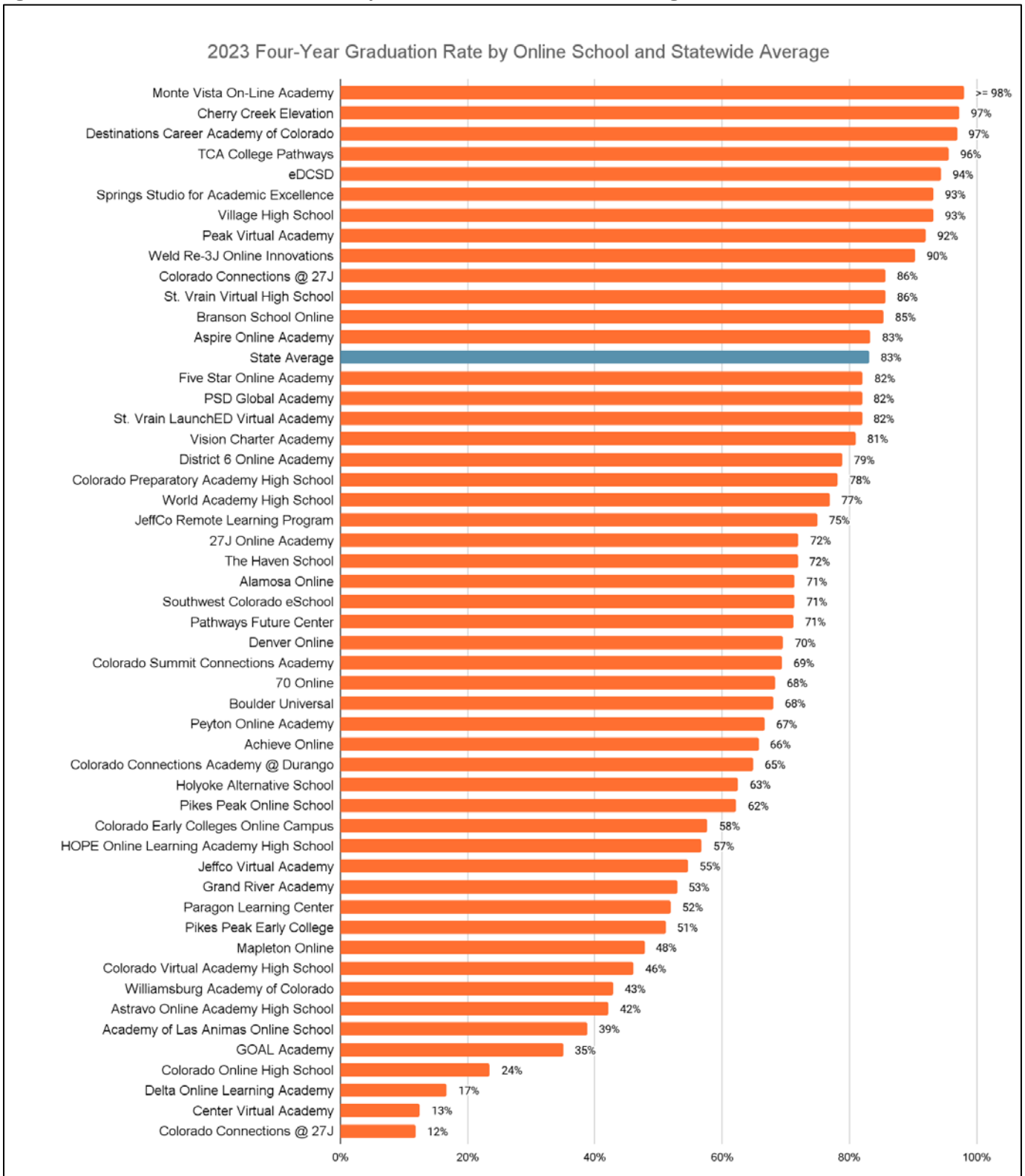


Figure 30: 2023 Four-Year Graduation Rate by Online School and Statewide Average¹³

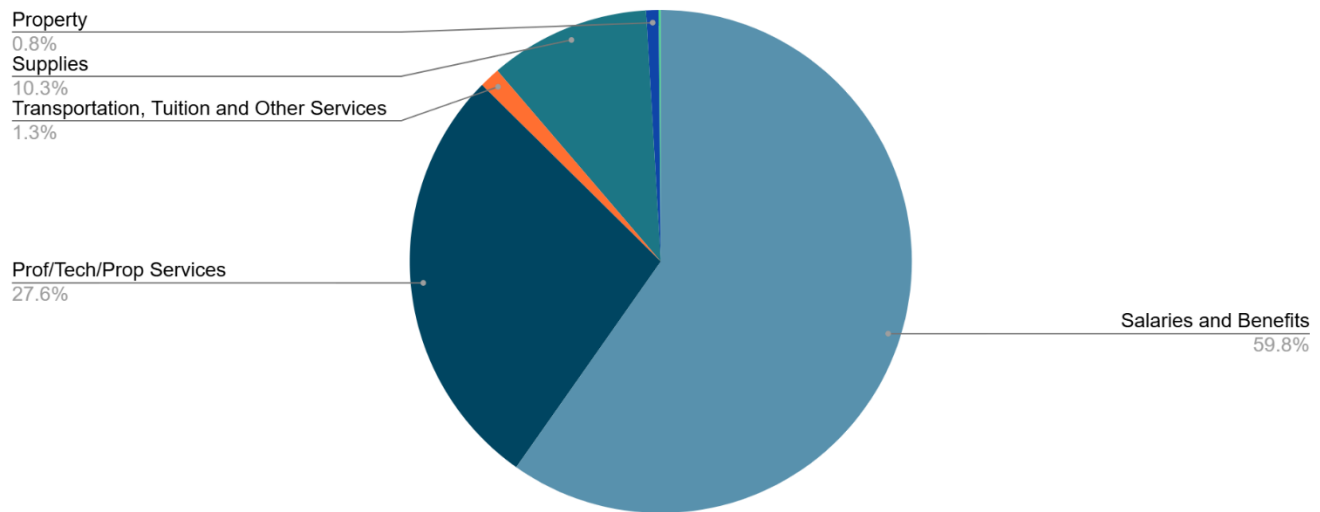


Financial Reporting

Online School and Program Financial Reporting

Pursuant to §22-30.7-103(3)(I), C.R.S., financial expenditures of online schools and programs that are non-charter are submitted to the department on an annual basis. Online schools and programs report expenditure activities to their authorizers, who in turn submit the data to the department during the annual financial reporting period. Online charter schools and programs at charter schools provide financial information through the online charter schools’ Financial Transparency Act reporting.

Figure 31: Online Program and School Expenditure for Fiscal Year 2023 (not including online charter schools)



Summary of Financial Expenditures

The Online Expenditure Report submitted to the CDE each year represents an accounting of all district expenditures associated with online schools and programs for a year. This reporting consists of two parts: instructional program expenditures and support program expenditures. For both instructional program and support program areas, the categories of expenditures reported include salaries, benefits, purchased professional services, transportation, supplies, property, and an “other use of funds” category. Because charter data is reported at the school level, and available through the financial transparency website, the financial expenditures shown here do not include expenditures from online charter schools.

The most current reported expenditures are displayed in Figure 28 for the 2021-22 fiscal year. As shown above, the largest percentage of expenditures (60 percent) is utilized for salaries and benefits followed by professional/technical purchased services (28 percent) and then supplies (10 percent) of reported expenditures. It is important to note that the reported expenditures are only one source of financial reporting information¹⁴.

¹³ Data privacy guidelines have been applied to graduation rates to maintain student data privacy. For more detailed information about data privacy measures and methods, please see the CDE [Aggregate Data Privacy Guidelines](#)

¹⁴ For more detailed school level information, please visit the [Colorado Financial Transparency for Colorado Schools](#) website.

Legislation of Note

Senate Bill 19-129

In 2019, the state legislature enacted Senate Bill 19-129, which required the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) to establish criteria for determining whether a newly authorized multi-district online school is a new school or a successor to a previously authorized multi-district online school. When a newly authorized school is determined to be a successor to a previously authorized school on Performance Watch, the accountability history of the prior school applies to the new school. Authorizers may appeal successor determinations to the State Board of Education.

Overview of Successor School Criteria

The following criteria were developed to determine if a newly authorized online school is a successor school:

1. When a newly authorized multi-district online school is reviewed by the department, a newly authorized multi-district online school may be considered a successor school under the following conditions:
 - The newly authorized multi-district online school has two or more of the following characteristics as its predecessor:
 - The school has 25 percent or more of the same board membership if the school is a charter school;
 - The school has the same principal, assistant principal, or chief executive;
 - The school has the same educational service provider and/or same digital curriculum provider even if such provider changes its name
 - The purpose of the successor school review of such a school is to determine whether the accountability history for an existing multi-district online school that is on performance watch should follow to the newly authorized school or to determine whether the school is a successor of a school that was closed by order of the state board.
2. A school code on performance watch will stay on performance watch regardless of whether the criteria of the school (as outlined in #1) are changed.
3. Outside of the review described in #1, an existing multi-district online school that merges previous school codes into one or separates an existing school code into several will automatically have the new school code or codes deemed as a successor school or schools for the purpose of extending the performance watch history of the predecessor school to the applicable successor schools. A school code on performance watch will stay on performance watch regardless of whether the criteria of the school (as outlined in #1) are changed.

Successor School Criteria Applied

Since the implementation of SB19-129, there were two instances where it was determined that a newly authorized online school was a successor of a previously authorized online school. Table 26 shows the online schools that have been determined to be a successor school since the law was enacted.

Table 25: Multi-district Online Successor Schools

Year	Authorizer	New Online School	Previously Authorized Successor School
2021	Education reEnvisioned BOCES	Colorado Summit Connections Academy	Colorado Connections Academy @Mapleton
2022	27J School District	Colorado Connections Academy @27J	Colorado Connections Academy @Mapleton

Senate Bill 24-070

In 2024, the legislature passed Senate Bill 24-070, Remote Testing & Online Education Programs. This bill requires CDE to develop, review, and update state assessment administration and security policies to allow students enrolled in online schools and programs to have state assessments administered virtually. The bill referenced high parental opt outs for state assessments resulting in the lack of data for students in online schools as justification for the need to allow for remote assessment administration. At the time of preparation of this report, the bill was in the early stages of implementation. Data will be available by the next publication to assess its impact on participation rates.

Conclusion

The demand for online learning has increased over the last five years, in part, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Significant increases in student enrollment in online schools and programs as well as the increase in openings in online schools have occurred since the 2020-21 school year. Online student enrollment has increased 42.7 percent since the publication of the last version of this report in 2019.

Online schools have higher mobility rates and mobility incidence rates meaning that students enter and exit online schools during the school year at a higher rate than the rest of the state. When it comes to attendance, the attendance rates for students in online schools are similar to attendance rates for students in non-online schools. Truancy rates are higher for students in online schools while chronic absenteeism rates are similar to those in non-online schools.

Participation in state assessments continues to be a challenge for online schools as participation rates have decreased by approximately 30 percentage points from 18-19 to 22-23, while participation in non-online schools have decreased by approximately five percentage points over the same time period. The lack of participation in state assessments presents challenges with making reliable conclusions on performance trends for students in online schools. Based on the available data, assessment results on the Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) and college entrance exams for grades 9 through 11 show that students in online schools continue to perform at lower levels than students in non-online schools, consistent with findings from previous reports.

The number of online schools on the Performance Watch has decreased since 2019. While there are fewer online schools on Performance Watch, there are many that do not have enough data to report and are given an "Insufficient State Data" (ISD) rating. Thirty-six (36) out of 63 online schools received a rating of 'Insufficient State Data' on the 2023 School Performance Framework (SPF).

In terms of how online schools are preparing students for college and the workforce after high school, the Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness (PWR) indicator on the School Performance Frameworks shows that 68.0 percent of online schools serving high school students are rated "Does Not Meet" or "Approaching." Eight schools received a rating of "Meets," and four received an "Exceeds" rating. Additionally, the dropout rate for online schools is higher than the state rate, while graduation rates for online schools tend to be lower than the state across all measures (e.g., four-year, five-year rates).

Pursuant to §22-30.7-103(3)(I), C.R.S., financial expenditures of online schools and programs that are non-charter are submitted to the department on an annual basis. As in past years, an analysis of expenditure reports submitted to the department indicates that most costs are associated with salaries and benefits for staff with technology and equipment costs following.