

Latino High School Graduation Rates in Minnesota: The Class of 2001 At-A-Glance

The Minnesota Department of Children, Families and Learning (CFL) released a report, the [*Completion Study for the Class of 2001*](#), in August of 2002 that includes high school graduation rates in Minnesota for the Class of 2001. The report tracked all students who entered ninth grade in September 1997. In June 2001, it verified students' status whether or not they graduated, dropped out, or returned school the following school year. In this brief, HACER includes three tables that summarize the statewide high school graduation rates by race/ethnicity and raw data from selected school districts across Minnesota that have a relatively large Hispanic/Latino student population. Additionally, the brief looks closely at 47 school districts that have the highest and lowest Latino graduation rates relative to the statewide graduation rate of 78.1%. The brief does not explain why some districts have higher or lower rates than other districts. For information about this theme and about the reasons behind the differences in graduation rates between different races/ethnic groups, refer to [Appendix I](#).

Based on the report's findings:

- The Minnesota statewide graduation rate for the Class of 2001 is 78.1%; however, graduation rates among minority high school students are far below the statewide graduation rate.
- [Table 1](#) shows that only 46.7% of Hispanic/Latino high school students graduated in 2001 compared to 82.5% of white high school students.
- One out of three (30.1%) Hispanic/Latino students, who entered in ninth grade in September 1997 dropped out.
- Another 23.2% of Hispanic/Latino students, who were in ninth grade in September 1997 weren't able to graduate in time and had to continue their education the following year.
- [Table 1](#) also indicates similar low graduation rates for other minority groups in the state of Minnesota.

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**Table 1: Minnesota Statewide Graduation Rates
The Class of 2001¹**

Race/ Ethnicity	# of Students Served	%	# of Students Graduated	Graduation Rates (%)	# of Students Dropped Out	% of Students Dropped Out	# of Students Returning Following School Year	% of Students Returning Following School Year
Asian	2893	4.42	1975	68.3	389	13.5	529	18.3
Black	3398	5.20	1309	38.5	1065	31.3	1024	30.1
Hispanic	1264	1.93	590	46.7	381	30.1	293	23.2
Indian	1297	1.98	555	42.8	439	33.9	303	23.4
White	56532	86.46	46624	82.5	4152	7.3	5756	10.2
Total	65384	100	51053	78.1%	6425	9.8	7905	12.1

The [Completion Study for the Class of 2001](#) includes high school graduation rates for 364 school districts. This brief outlines only 47 school districts in Minnesota that had five or more Hispanic/Latino ninth graders in 1997. The full report is available on-line at <http://cfl.state.mn.us/datactr/compstu/#2001>. As shown in [Table 2](#):

- All ninth graders at Hopkins, Wayzata and Winona school districts in 1997 were successfully able to graduate in 2001.
- Willmar and Glencoe-Silver Lake school districts had the lowest Hispanic/Latino high school graduation rate at 19.3% and 16.7%.
- Districts that had the highest dropped out rate are Glencoe-Silver Lake at 83.3%, Le Sueur-Henderson and Owatonna at 62.5%, and Pelican Rapids at 60%.

¹ Results are found in the Completion Study for the Class of 2001 released by the Minnesota Department of Children, Families & Learning in August 2002. The report could be viewed at <http://cfl.state.mn.us/datactr/compstu/#2001>.

Table 2: Selected School Districts in Minnesota that Served Hispanic Students²

District Name	# of Students Served	Overall # of Students Graduated	Overall Graduation Rate (%)	# of Hispanic Students Served	# of Hispanic Students Graduated	% of Hispanic Students Graduated	# and (%) of Hispanic Students Dropped Out	# and (%) of Hispanic Students Returning Following School Year
Albert Lea	310	264	85.2	13	7	53.9	6 (46.2)	0 (0.0)
Anoka-Hennepin	2625	2137	81.4	30	20	66.7	5 (16.7)	5 (16.7)
Austin	346	229	66.2	11	5	45.5	4 (36.4)	2 (18.2)
Bloomington	708	636	89.8	13	7	53.9	2 (15.4)	4 (30.8)
Burnsville	704	562	79.8	12	9	75.0	1 (8.3)	2 (16.7)
Columbia Heights	158	125	79.1	9	8	88.9	1 (11.1)	0 (0.0)
Crookston	176	140	79.6	8	4	50.0	2 (25.0)	2 (25.0)
Duluth	998	774	77.6	6	2	33.3	2 (33.3)	2 (33.3)

² School districts are listed in alphabetical order.

District Name	# of Students Served	Overall # of Students Graduated	Overall Graduation Rate (%)	# of Hispanic Students Served	# of Hispanic Students Graduated	% of Hispanic Students Graduated	# and (%) of Hispanic Students Dropped Out	# and (%) of Hispanic Students Returning Following School Year
East Grand Forks	169	146	86.4	17	9	52.9	6 (35.3)	2 (11.8)
Eden Prairie	598	549	91.8	9	8	88.9	0 (0.0)	1 (11.1)
Edina	434	429	98.9	5	4	80.0	0 (0.0)	1 (20.0)
Faribault	352	292	83.0	6	3	50.0	3 (50.0)	0 (0.0)
Glencoe-Silver Lake	148	134	90.5	6	1	16.7	5 (83.3)	0 (0.0)
Hastings	402	360	89.6	6	4	66.7	0 (0.0)	2 (33.3)
Hopkins	541	489	90.4	7	7	100	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Inver Grove	278	232	83.5	11	6	54.6	0 (0.0)	5 (45.5)
Intermediate School District 2	100	11	11.0	5	1	20.0	2 (40.0)	2 (40)
Le Sueur-Henderson	96	80	83.3	8	2	25.0	5 (62.5)	1 (12.5)

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Litchfield	148	134	90.5	9	4	44.4	2 (22.2)	3 (33.3)
Madelia	46	40	87.0	8	4	50.0	4 (50.0)	0 (0.0)
Mankato	547	459	83.9	11	8	72.7	0 (0.0)	3 (27.3)
Marshall	204	183	89.7	8	2	25.0	3 (37.5)	3 (37.5)
Minneapolis	3055	1400	45.8	149	47	31.5	65 (43.6)	37 (24.8)
Moorhead	371	338	91.1	18	9	50.0	6 (33.3)	3 (16.7)
Moundsview	858	739	86.1	7	6	85.7	0 (0.0)	1 (14.3)
North St. Paul- Maplewood	721	649	90.0	11	8	72.7	1 (9.1)	2 (18.2)
Northfield	271	225	83.0	5	3	60.0	1 (20.0)	1 (20)

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Osseo	1300	1149	88.4	20	11	55.0	2 (10.0)	7 (35)
Owatonna	377	332	88.1	8	3	37.5	5 (62.5)	0 (0.0)
Pelican Rapids	86	79	91.9	5	2	40.0	3 (60.0)	0 (0.0)
Richfield	239	200	83.7	10	5	50.5	0 (0.0)	5 (50.0)
Robbinsdale	726	597	82.2	17	9	52.9	4 (23.5)	4 (23.5)
Rochester	1130	920	81.4	23	11	47.8	9 (39.1)	3 (13)
Rosemount-Apple Valley	1720	1514	88.0	22	18	81.8	2 (9.1)	2 (9.1)
Shakopee	188	172	91.5	5	3	60.0	1 (20.0)	1 (20.0)
Sibley East	100	96	96.0	6	3	50.0	3 (50.0)	0 (0.0)
South St. Paul	276	200	72.5	16	7	43.8	8 (50.0)	1 (6.3)

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South Washington County	995	916	92.1	15	13	86.7	1 (6.7)	1 (6.7)
St. Cloud	827	650	78.6	5	3	60.0	0 (0.0)	2 (40.0)
St. James	92	84	91.3	9	3	33.3	5 (55.6)	1 (11.1)
St. Paul	2695	1699	63.0	193	94	48.7	54 (28.0)	45 (23.3)
Wayzata	551	544	98.7	6	6	100	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
West St. Paul-Mendota	269	228	84.8	11	5	45.5	1 (9.1)	5 (45.5)
White Bear Lake	670	632	94.3	9	6	66.7	1 (11.1)	2 (22.2)
Willmar	348	258	74.1	57	11	19.3	33 (57.9)	13 (22.8)
Winona	393	297	75.6	5	5	100	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Worthington	188	153	81.4	8	3	37.5	2 (25.0)	3 (37.5)

As indicated in [Table 3](#):

- There are 12 school districts that had 70% or higher of Hispanic/Latino graduation rate including Hopkins, Wayzata, Winona, Columbia Heights, Eden Prairie, South Washington County, Moundsview, Rosemount-Apple Valley, Edina, Burnsville, Mankato and North St. Paul-Maplewood.
- Twenty-four (24) school districts stand a little bit above and fall somewhat below the statewide Hispanic/Latino high school graduation rate in 2001. Those school districts also have a relatively large Hispanic/Latino community such as Albert Lea, Austin, Faribault, Rochester and St. Paul.
- Lastly, there are 11 school districts that had 40% or lower of Hispanic/Latino graduation rate including Pelican Rapids, Owatonna, Worthington, Duluth, St. James, Minneapolis, Le Sueur-Henderson, Marshall, Intermediate School District 2, Willmar and Glencoe-Silver Lake.
- The purpose of this brief is not to explain why certain school districts had higher Latino/Hispanic high school graduate rates for the class of 2001 than others. Therefore, HACER hopes that viewers take into account other factors that affected Latino/Hispanic high school graduation rates such as disparities in resources among school systems, a mobile population and number of students served.

Table 3: School Districts by Percentage of Hispanic/Latino High School Graduation Rate in 2001

School Districts that Had 70% or Higher of Hispanic/Latino Graduation Rate in 2001	School Districts that Had 69.9% to 43% of Hispanic/Latino Graduation Rate in 2001		School Districts that Had 40% or lower of Hispanic/Latino Graduation Rate in 2001
Hopkins 100%	Anoka-Hennepin 66.7%	Richfield 50.5%	Pelican Rapids 40.0%
Wayzata 100%	Hastings 66.7%	Crookston 50.0%	Owatonna 37.5%
Winona 100%	White Bear Lake 66.7%	Faribault 50.0%	Worthington 37.5%

School Districts that Had 70% or Higher of Hispanic/Latino Graduation Rate in 2001	School Districts that Had 69.9% to 43% of Hispanic/Latino Graduation Rate in 2001		School Districts that Had 40% or lower of Hispanic/Latino Graduation Rate in 2001
Columbia Heights 88.9%	Northfield 60.0%	Madelia 50.0%	Duluth 33.3%
Eden Prairie 88.9%	Shakopee 60.0%	Moorhead 50.0%	St. James 33.3%
South Washington County 86.7%	St. Cloud 60.0%	Sibley East 50.0%	Minneapolis 31.5%
Mounds View 85.7%	Osseo 55.0%	St. Paul 48.7%	Le Sueur-Henderson 25.0%
Rosemount-Apple Valley 81.8%	Inver Grove 54.6%	Rochester 47.8%	Marshall 25.0%
Edina 80%	Albert Lea 53.9%	Austin 45.5%	Intermediate School District 2 20.0%
Burnsville 75.0%	Bloomington 53.9%	West St. Paul-Mendota 45.5%	Willmar 19.3%
Mankato 72.7%	East Grand Forks 52.9%	Litchfield 44.4%	Glencoe-Silver Lake 16.7%
North St. Paul- Maplewood 72.7%	Robbinsdale 52.9%	South St. Paul 43.8%	

Appendix I

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