## **Graduation Rates**

Graduation from high school is one of the most significant indicators of student college and career readiness. Because graduation rates are also an important measure of school success, they are part of the system for rating high schools under the Nevada School Performance Framework (NSPF). The rating system includes measures for both 4-year and 5-year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rates (ACGRs).



ACGRs are the percentage of students who graduate in a specific period with a regular high school diploma. From the beginning of 9th grade (or the earliest high school grade), students entering that grade for the first time form a cohort that is adjusted by adding any students who subsequently transfer into the cohort and subtracting any students who subsequently transfer out, emigrate to another country, or die.

Nevada's high school rating system includes the Graduation Rates Indicator, which is made up of two Measures.

The first is the 4-Year ACGR Measure, which awards up to 25 points to schools based on the percentage of students graduating from high school within 4 years.

The second is the 5-year ACGR Measure, which awards up to 5 points to schools based on the percentage of students graduating from high school within 5 years.

These points are added to the points a school may earn for other NSPF Measures and converted into a school star rating.

Students who graduate from a high school within 4 years are counted as graduates in the school's 4-year graduation rate. Nevada also calculates a 5-year graduation rate. Students who graduate from high school within 5 years are counted in the school's 5-year graduation rate.

Only students who graduate with a Standard, Advanced, College and Career Ready, Adult, or Alternative Diploma are considered graduates. Students who receive a General Educational Development (GED) or an adjusted diploma are not considered graduates.

Graduation rates are calculated in October, which is past the school ratings deadline of September 15<sup>th</sup>, so the rating system uses prior year graduation rates. As an example, 2018 rates will count in the 2019 ratings.

For additional information, please visit the NSPF Procedures Manual.

Office of Accountability
Nevada Department of Education
<a href="mailto:adaminfo@doe.nv.gov">adaminfo@doe.nv.gov</a>