The graduation rate for Dashboard Alternative School Status (DASS) is based on the percent of students who attend an alternative high school, are enrolled in grade twelve, and meet enrollment requirements. This indicator applies to DASS schools with students in grades 12.

Note: Unlike the Four-Year Graduation Rate for non-alternative schools, students who earn a Special Education Certificate of Completion, a California High School Equivalency Certificate, or an adult education diploma are counted as graduating.

Calculating Current Year Data

\[
\text{Number of Students Who Earn a Regular High School Diploma} + \text{Number of Students Who Earn a Special Education Certificate of Completion} + \text{Number of Students Who Earn a California High School Equivalency Certificate} + \text{Number of Students Who Earn an Adult Education Diploma} \ \text{DIVIDED BY} \ \text{Total Number of Students in Grade 12}
\]

The result will fall into one of five levels, ranging from “Very High” to “Very Low.”

Comparing Current and Prior Year Data

We compare current and prior year data to see whether a school or district made improvement (i.e., had a higher rate of graduation in 2019 than it did in 2018) or experienced a decline.

\[
\text{Current Year Data (Class of 2019)} - \text{Prior Year Data (Class of 2018)}
\]

The result will fall into one of five levels, ranging from “Increased Significantly” to “Declined Significantly.”

Taken together—current year data and its comparison with prior year data—a performance level, or color, is given. Access the flyer about How Dashboard Colors are Determined on the California Department of Education (CDE) website at https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/documents/howcolorsdetermine.pdf. For information on the graduation rate for non-alternative schools, see the Four-Year Graduation Rate Indicator flyer on the CDE website at https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/index.asp, under the Communications Toolkit tab.

For more information, please visit the CDE Accountability Model & School Dashboard web page at https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/index.asp. March 2021