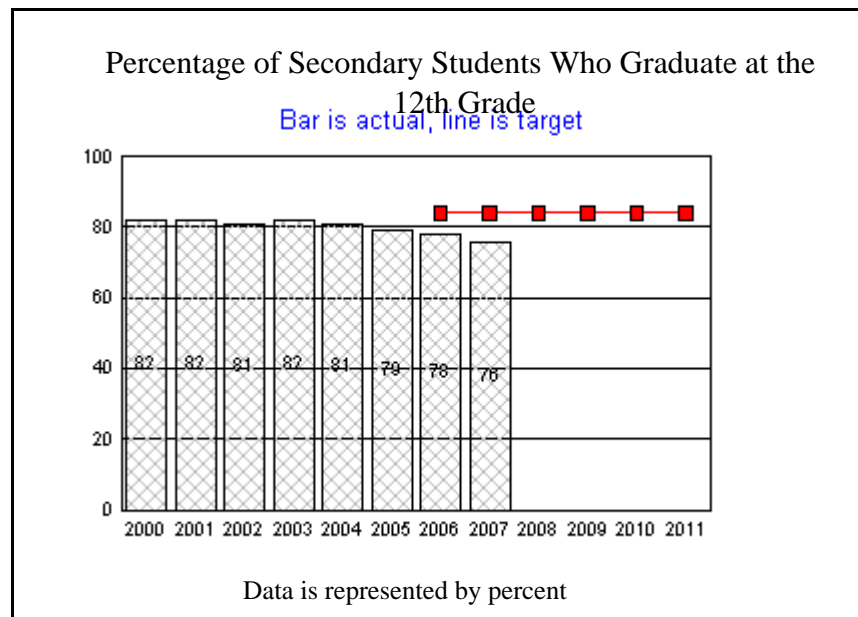


KPM #5	HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION—Percentage of secondary students who graduate, drop out or otherwise finish PK12 education (four separate metrics).	2000
Goal	STUDENT SUCCESS: Each student graduates from high school with a diploma and is prepared for a successful transition to next steps.	
Oregon Context	STUDENT SUCCESS: All students graduate with a diploma	
Data Source	High School Completers Data Collection, CCWD	
Owner	Office of Assessment and Information Services, (OAIS), Scoring and Reporting Section, Jessica Barr, 503-947-5828	



1. OUR STRATEGY

ODE develops and administers the Oregon Assessment System (Oregon Assessment of Knowledge and Skills – OAKS) and reports the results. The State Board of Education recently increased the graduation requirements to prepare students for the demands of college and the work place.

Now that the policy is established, ODE is engaged in the rollout work required to better prepare schools and districts to implement the new diploma requirements. This work involves a broad representation of ODE staff, education partners, and other stakeholders.

Key Partners

Schools and Districts, ESDs, Advisory Team on Underrepresented and Minority Student Achievement, Diploma Implementation Advisory Committee, Oregon University System (OUS), Community College and Workforce Development (CCWD), State Advisory Council for Special Education (SACSE), Oregon Education Association (OEA), Oregon School Boards Association (OSBA), Confederation of Oregon School Administrators (COSA), State Board of Education

2. ABOUT THE TARGETS

Graduates An increase in the percentage of students graduating with a regular diploma is desired. The new diploma requirements add more academic rigor to the high school program, with the intent of better preparing students for future education /training, the workforce, and for citizenship.

GED An increase in the number of students obtaining a GED could mean a decrease in high school dropouts (a positive outcome); however, it could also mean a decrease in high school diploma recipients (a negative or less than positive outcome). ODE set its targeted number of GEDs at 4,216 for 2008-11 by averaging the actual number of GEDs for 2002-03 through 2005-06.

Dropout A decrease in the number of students dropping out of high school is the desired outcome. ODE revised its targeted percentage of drop-outs to 4% for 2010 and 2011 to align KPM 5 – High School Graduation with OBM # 22 – High School Dropout Rate.

9th Grade Cohort This metric is the percentage of students graduating with a regular diploma within four years after 8th grade. Analyzing the data overtime for cohorts will reveal the student's journey through high school. At what point do students begin to leave school before they have graduated? This and other questions can help educators identify potentially vulnerable times when students need additional support. Before ODE can begin tracking data for this metric, ODE will need at least four years of data (representing students' 9-12 grade years). ODE will have sufficient data to begin reporting on this metric in 2008-09.

3. HOW WE ARE DOING

2006-07 High School Graduation data are presented in the graph above. 2007-08 data for GEDs and 2006-07 data for dropouts appear in supplemental graphs at the end of the analysis for KPM 5 – High School Graduation. Overall, the dropout percentages have remained fairly steady

over the past three years, increasing slightly from 4.1% in 2005-06 to 4.2% in 2006-07. This is above ODE's 2006-07 targeted dropout rate of 3%. However, when the data are disaggregated into subgroups there are gaps in the rate for some subgroups of students who dropout. The disaggregated results are in the Statewide Report Card (located at <http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?=1821>). ODE collects graduation and dropout data in the fall of the following school year. This means that ODE will report graduation and dropout data for 2007-08 in its 2009 APPR. The 9th grade cohort data will be available starting in 2008-09.

4. HOW WE COMPARE

Cross-state comparability is difficult using Graduation and Dropout rate data. In Spring 2009, ODE will calculate a new cohort graduation and dropout rate consistent with the National Governors Association (NGA) Compact Graduation Rate. The new calculation will provide a more accurate rate to assist schools, districts, and the state in developing education policies, and, ultimately, help greater numbers of students to succeed in school and earn a diploma. In addition, the new method meets the accountability requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 and the national standards set forth in the NGA compact graduation rate formula. This new method will also allow ODE to begin calculating cross-state comparability starting in 2008-09.

5. FACTORS AFFECTING RESULTS

What will be the impact of the policy to increase the diploma requirements? What will be the impact for students, schools, and communities? It will be interesting to watch how the new graduation requirements affect the data over time as the schools and districts roll out their implementation plans. It is possible that implementation efforts will take some time before a change in the data is seen.

6. WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE

There must be continued diligence on the part of ODE, districts, and schools to reduce the number of dropouts. The data should be disaggregated at the group level (groups of students) and the school level to better identify elements of student and school success, and those elements that are troublesome.

As part of its 2009-11 Budget Request, ODE is proposing Policy Option Package #101 – Oregon Diploma and # 107 – Support for High Performing Students. ODE believes that passage of POP #s 101 and 107 will improve ODE's ability to meet its targets for KPM 5 – High School Graduation during the 2009-11 biennium. ODE is still in the process of identifying the expected degree of POP #s 101 and 107's impact on future performance for this KPM.

7. ABOUT THE DATA

ODE uses four metrics for this performance measure: 12th grade students who graduate with a regular diploma, students who earn a GED (General Education Diploma), students who drop out of school, and 9th grade cohort. ODE uses these four metrics to tell a more complete story about Oregon's adolescent students.

The graphs included in this analysis display 2006-07 data for graduation and drop-out rates. The graph for GEDs displays 2007-08 data. Disaggregated data for subgroups of students is contained in the Statewide Report Card (located at <http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?=1821>). The data for 2006-07 shows a slight decrease in the percentages for all graduates from the prior three years. As explained in [Section 3. How We Are Doing](#), ODE collects graduation and dropout data in the fall of the following school year, so there will be a one-year reporting lag for those metrics.