November 2019

Preparing All Students for Post-Secondary Success

We are proud of the 2,170 members of the Class of 2019 who met our standards of excellence.

- Over the past two years, DCPS has taken steps to ensure that all students meet our standards of excellence and have the support they need to thrive. School Year 2018-2019 was the first full year of implementation of our Pre-K to Graduation policies, which our schools are implementing and monitoring with fidelity.

- We are **proud of the 2,170 graduates (65%) who met our standards of excellence and we will continue to provide support to all students on the path to graduation.**

- **Building strong systems and structures is a multi-year process**, and we will continue this work to support future DCPS graduates as they transition into college and their future careers.

DCPS is supporting students on the path to college and career through…

- **Proactive Student Engagement**
  - High school students build real-world skills aligned to in-demand career fields through **NAF Academies, Career and Technical Education programs, and internships**.
  - The individualized **Student Guide to Graduation, Career, and College** empowers students with information on their progress toward graduation and actionable steps to help them work towards a post-secondary pathway.
- **Targeted Student Supports**
  - **Credit Recovery and Twilight 2.0** give students another opportunity to earn credits toward graduation outside of their regular course schedule in a supportive, personalized environment.
  - **Reengagement Specialists** work to bring students who have disengaged from school back to DCPS and **Opportunity Academies** provide a competency-based, self-paced pathway to graduation for students who are academically off-track.
- **Leveraging Data and Systems**
  - School leaders and staff consistently leverage real-time data to customize support for students.

The 4-Year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate (ACGR) measures the percent of 9th graders who graduate within four years.

ACGR is calculated by following a cohort of rising 9th grade students to determine the percentage that receive a **regular diploma within 4 years** (including students who graduate early).

Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate

$$\frac{\text{Grads within 4 years}}{(\text{Grads within 4 years} + \underline{\textbf{non-grads*}}) - \underline{\textbf{(Transfer students who produce valid documentation)}}}$$

*Non-grads include:
- Students who withdraw without subsequent enrollment (Any student who transfers and produces valid documentation of enrollment in another degree-granting school will be removed from the cohort).
- Students who are still enrolled and did not graduate in 4 years.
- Students who receive all other types of diplomas/certificates other than a traditional diploma (GED, SPED certificates, etc.).
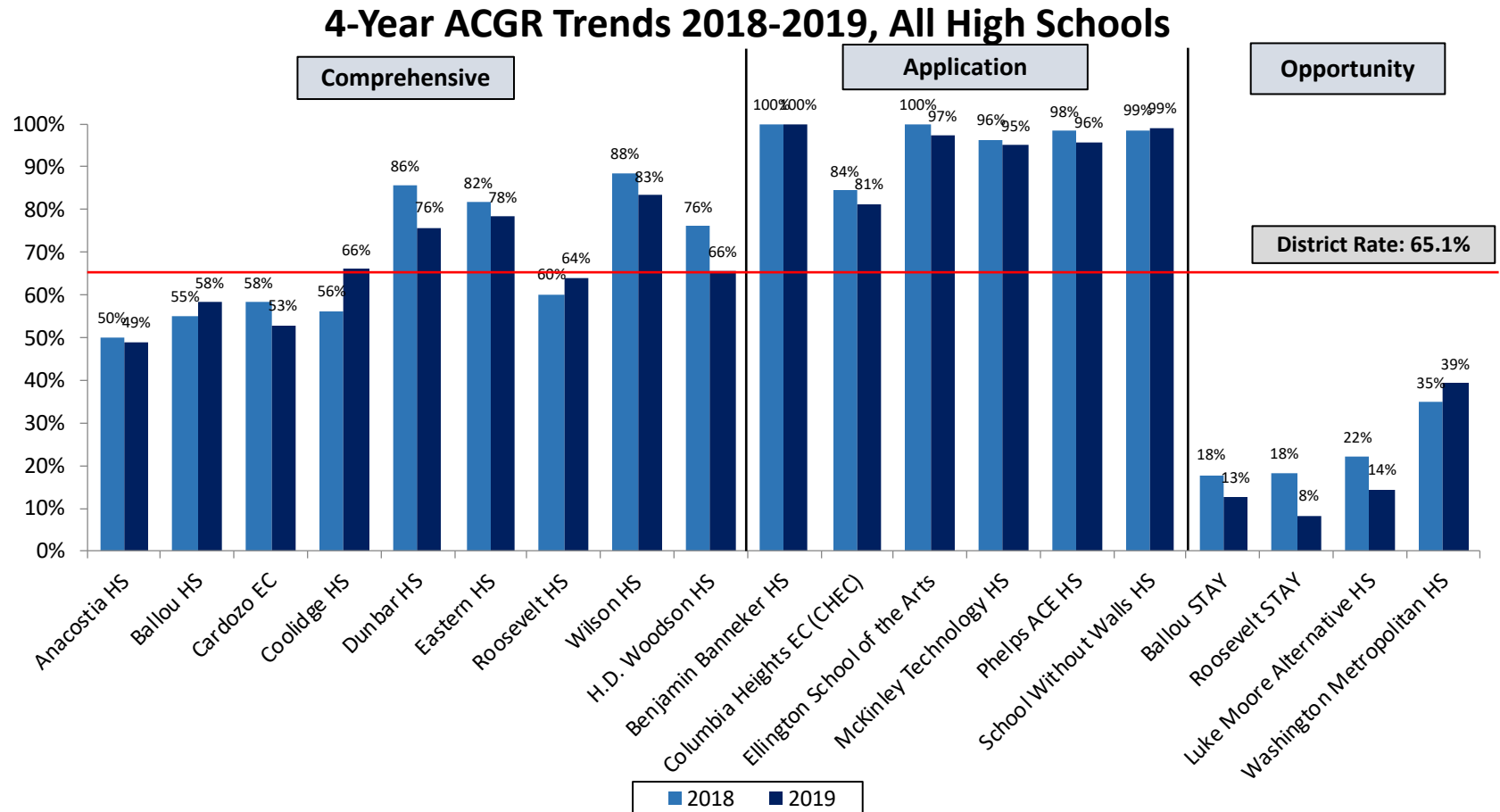
The 2019 4-Year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate is 65.1% compared to 68.6% in 2018.

DCPS 4-Year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rates
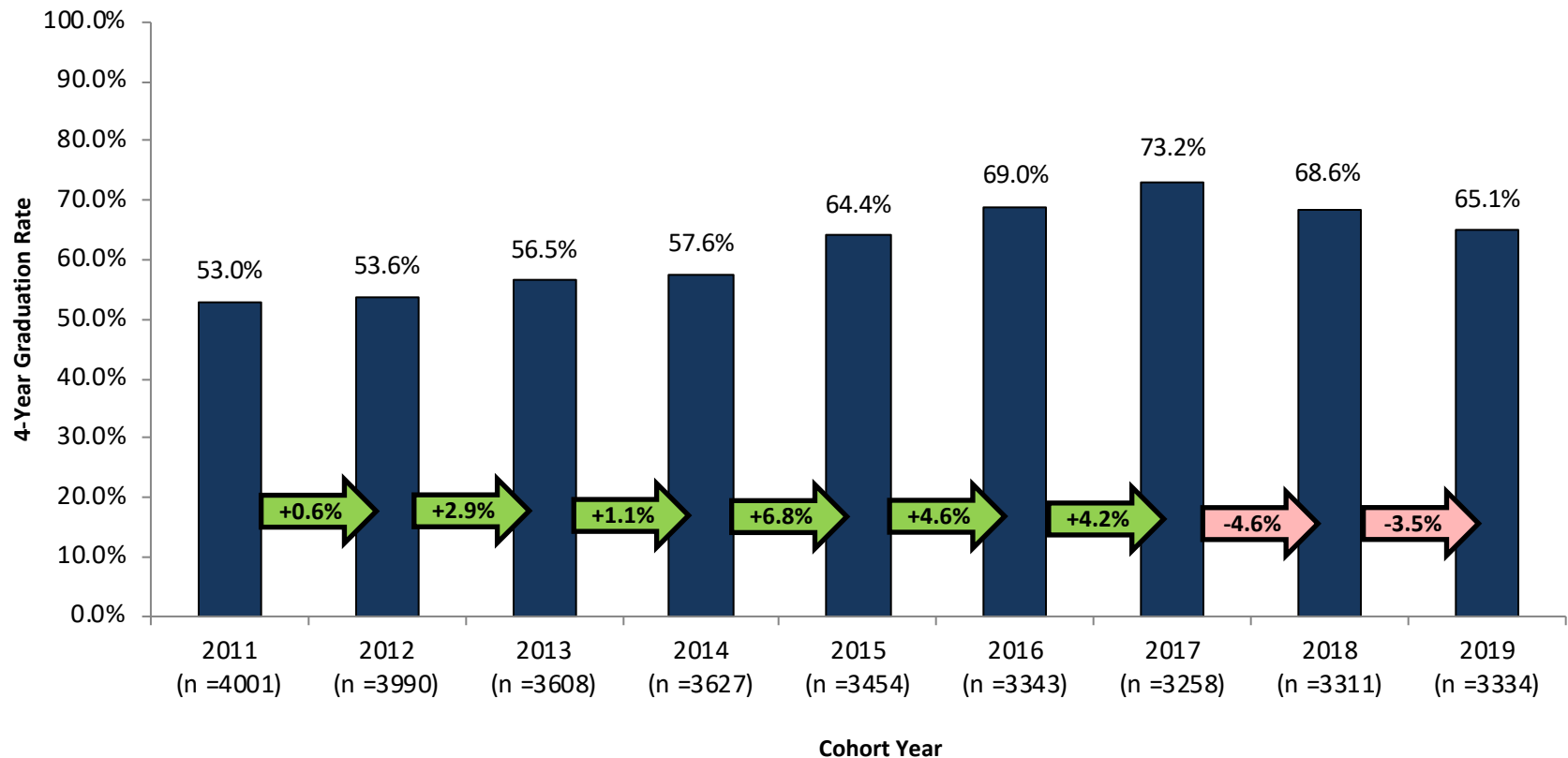
Note. n represents the number of students included in the final ACGR cohort.

2018 and 2019 Graduation Rate by High School

4-Year ACGR Trends 2018-2019, All High Schools

2017, 2018, and 2019 Graduation Rate by Subgroup

4-Year ACGR Trends 2017-2019, Districtwide Subgroups

District: 65.1%

Legend: 2017, 2018, 2019
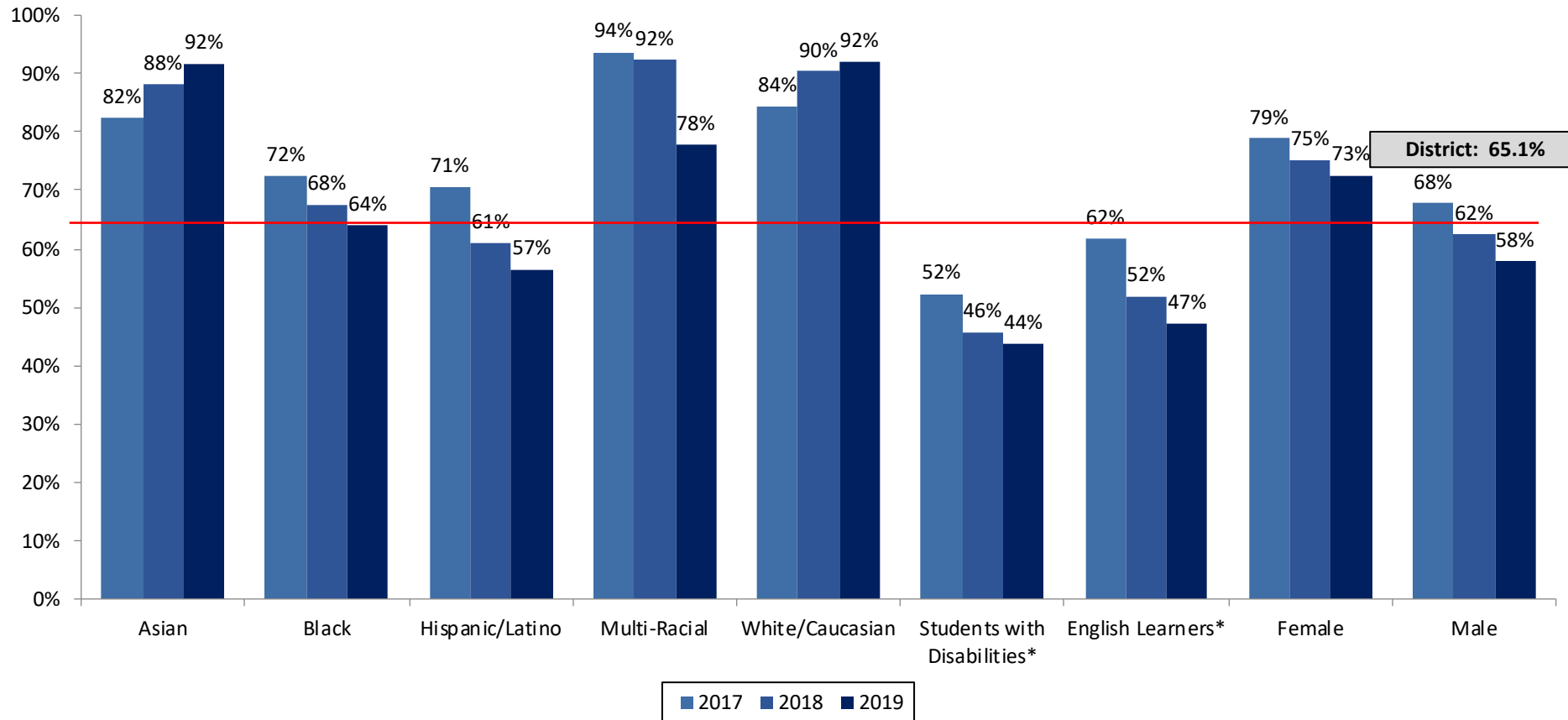
*Identifies students who were *ever* identified as a student with a disability or English learner while in high school.

We attribute the decline in our graduation rate to an increasingly rigorous credit recovery policy implemented in SY 2018-2019.

- We know that the path to graduation takes on many forms and that students who may need more time to master the coursework must receive the support they need to complete those credits and fulfill their graduation requirements.

- In School Year 2018-2019, DCPS implemented **a new credit recovery policy that increased rigor while concurrently increasing flexibility**.

- Because DCPS finalized our credit recovery program in the fall of 2018 based on public feedback, credit recovery programming was not available to students until Term 2.

- Due to the abridged timing as well as the increased level of rigor, DCPS saw a slight decrease in the number of 2019 graduates who earned credits toward graduation through credit recovery.

There is more work to do, but our increasingly rigorous academic standards are already delivering results.

- To prepare our students to thrive in college, DCPS continues to expand opportunities for students to earn college credits prior to graduation.

- **DCPS' Advanced Placement (AP) overall pass rates improved for the 9th consecutive year and are over 40 percent for the first time.**

- In order to accelerate student achievement, DCPS is:

  - **Expanding access to pre-AP courses** so students are more prepared for the rigor of AP courses;

  - Launching an **AP teacher mentorship program** to partner newer AP teachers with veteran teachers;

  - Investing in teacher preparation through professional development; and

  - Monitoring school scheduling to ensure that students are taking the courses that best prepare them for AP success.

DCPS' AP pass rate has climbed steadily since 2010.

AP Exam Performance in DCPS: 2010-2019

■— % of Exams On Which Students Earned a 3, 4 or 5
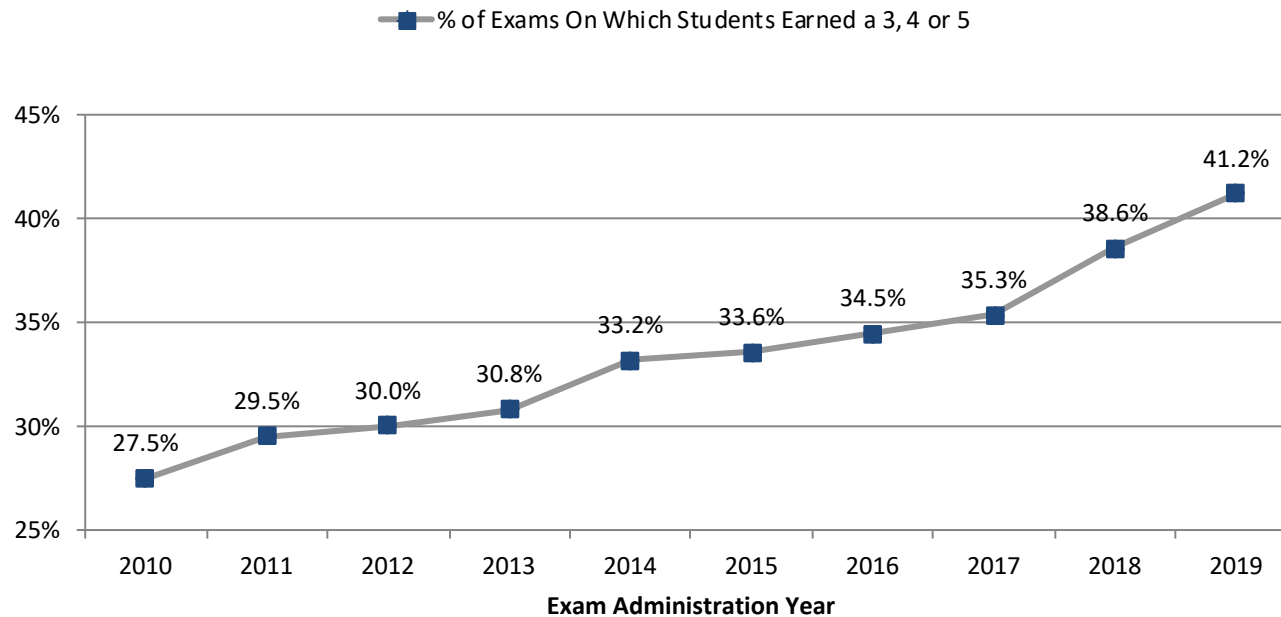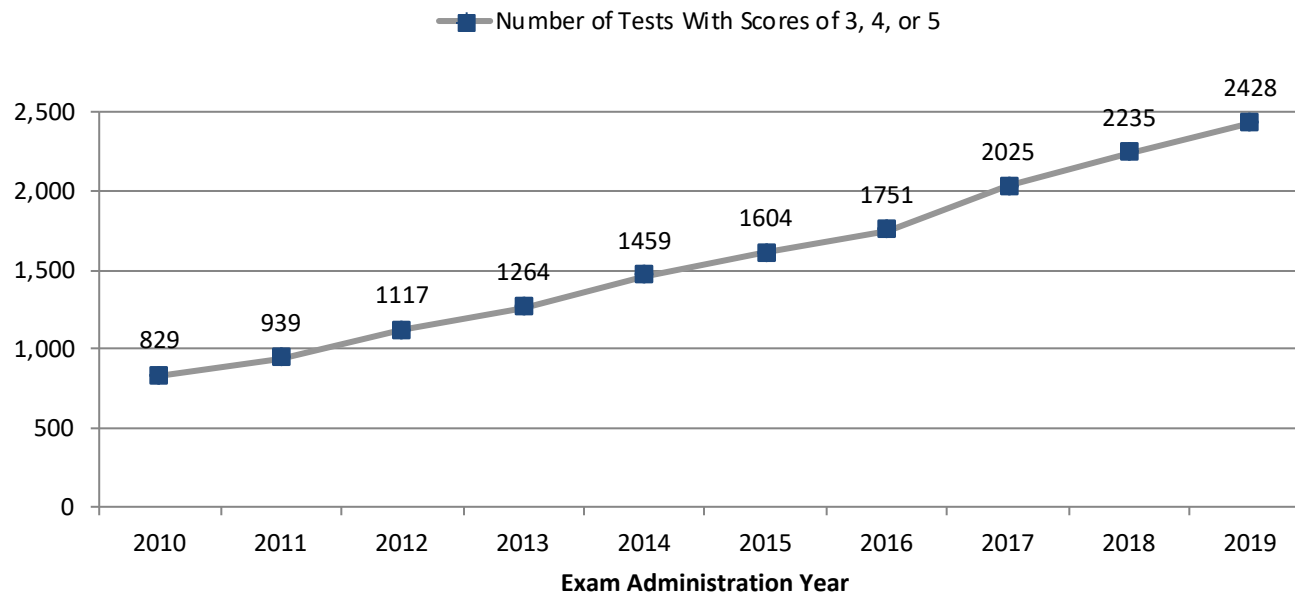

Source: The College Board District Summary Report by School, 2010-2019

The number of AP exams passed by DCPS students has nearly tripled in the past 9 years.

AP Exams Passed by DCPS Students, 2010-2019

Number of Tests With Scores of 3, 4, or 5

Source: The College Board District Summary Report by School, 2010-2019

The number of DCPS students taking AP exams has increased dramatically since 2010.

AP Exam Participation in DCPS (2010-2019)

■— Total AP Exams ━■━ Students Taking 1 or More AP Exams

Year	Total AP Exams	Students Taking 1 or More AP Exams
2010	3017	1753
2011	3181	2006
2012	3724	2292
2013	4101	2516
2014	4398	2596
2015	4777	2752
2016	5079	3016
2017	5731	3308
2018	5795	3379
2019	5894	3297

Exam Administration Year
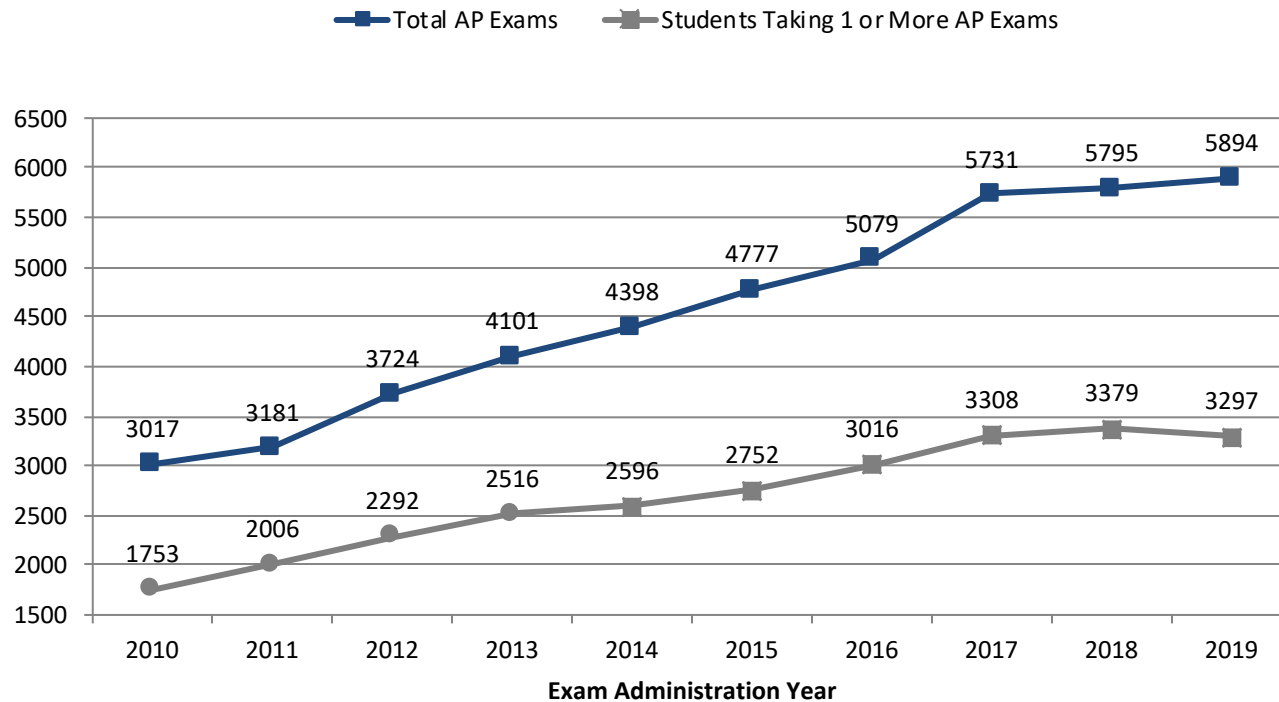
Source: The College Board District Summary Report by School 2010-2019

# More DCPS students are choosing to continue their education through college.

- **DCPS' fall college enrollment has steadily increased**, and 55 percent of the Class of 2018 enrolled in college, the highest fall enrollment rate since 2010.
  - Fall college enrollment has increased for the majority of DCPS high schools since 2016.
  - The percent of graduates scoring at or above the SAT college and career benchmark has increased in both Evidence-Based Reading and Writing (EBRW) and Math, demonstrating that DCPS is graduating more students prepared for college and career.
  - DCPS continues to increase college enrollment rates for students who are eligible for the Pell grant (i.e., expected family contribution less than $5,576).

*A student is counted as having been enrolled in the fall if they were enrolled for any length of time in a term that began between August 1 and October 31, inclusive. It is a national standard for postsecondary enrollment measurement.

*Data for the Class of 2019 is not available yet.

Fall college enrollment has increased and the Class of 2018 graduates had the highest fall enrollment rate (55%) since 2010.

DCPS Fall College Enrollment 2010 - 2018
(Updated with the Spring 2019 Data)
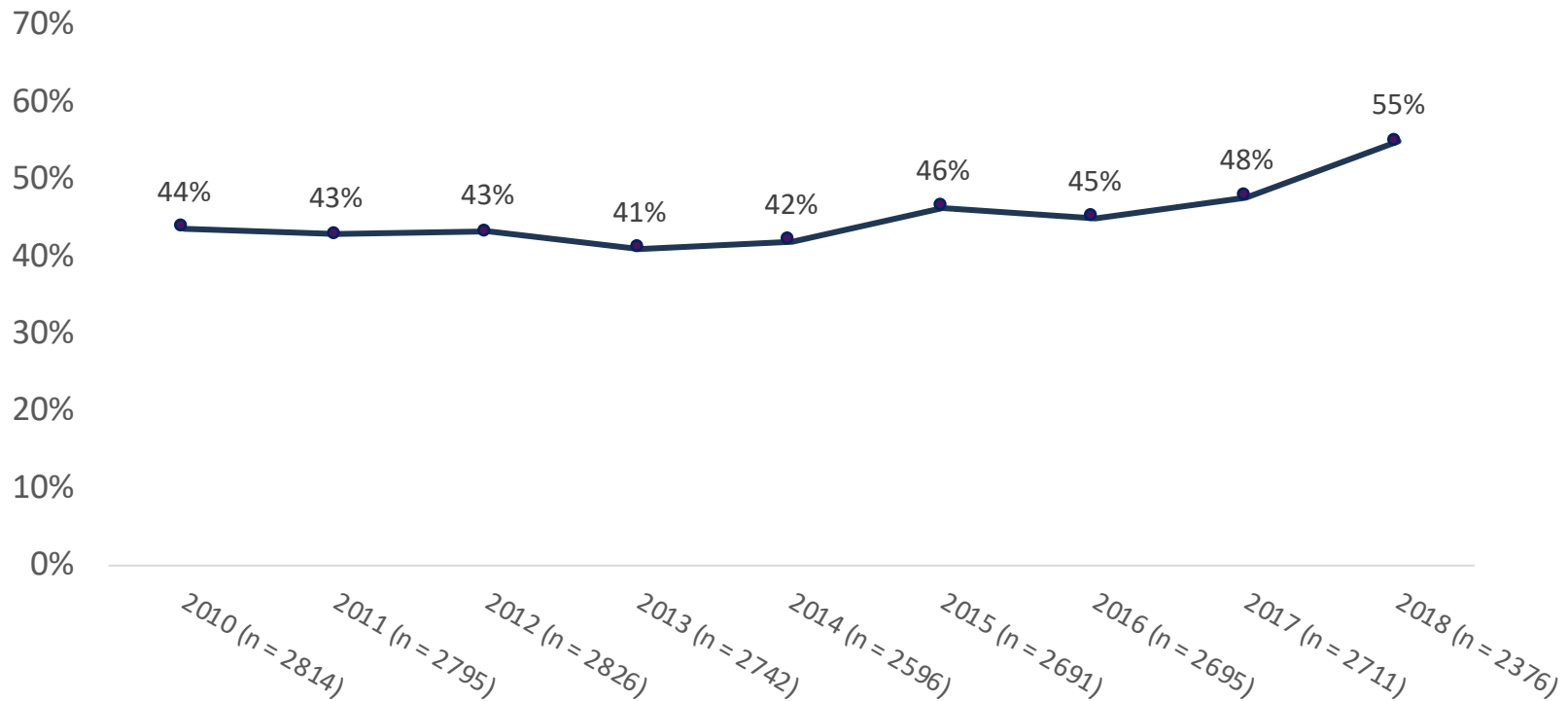
Note. This graph represents the proportion of fall enrollees out of the total number of DCPS graduates per each class.

What contributed to the increase in fall enrollment rates?

- **College & Career Coordinators in nine high schools**
  - The College & Career Coordinator Initiative provides proactive, targeted, coordinated college and career guidance and resources for 9th-12th graders. This work ensures every student develops a post-secondary plan, and that each student receives targeted supports and opportunities for them to achieve that plan.

- **Empowering school leadership with data**
 - Over the past five years, school leadership teams have been given tools and resources to better understand their college enrollment, college applications, and students' progress toward college milestones.

- **Increased early exposure**
  - DCPS has made a significant investments in providing schools with access to funds for college tours to visit colleges with a commitment to supporting DCPS students.

Since 2016, the percent of DCPS graduates scoring at or above the SAT college and career benchmark has increased.

Percent of ACGR Graduates who Scored at or above the SAT College and Career Ready Benchmark
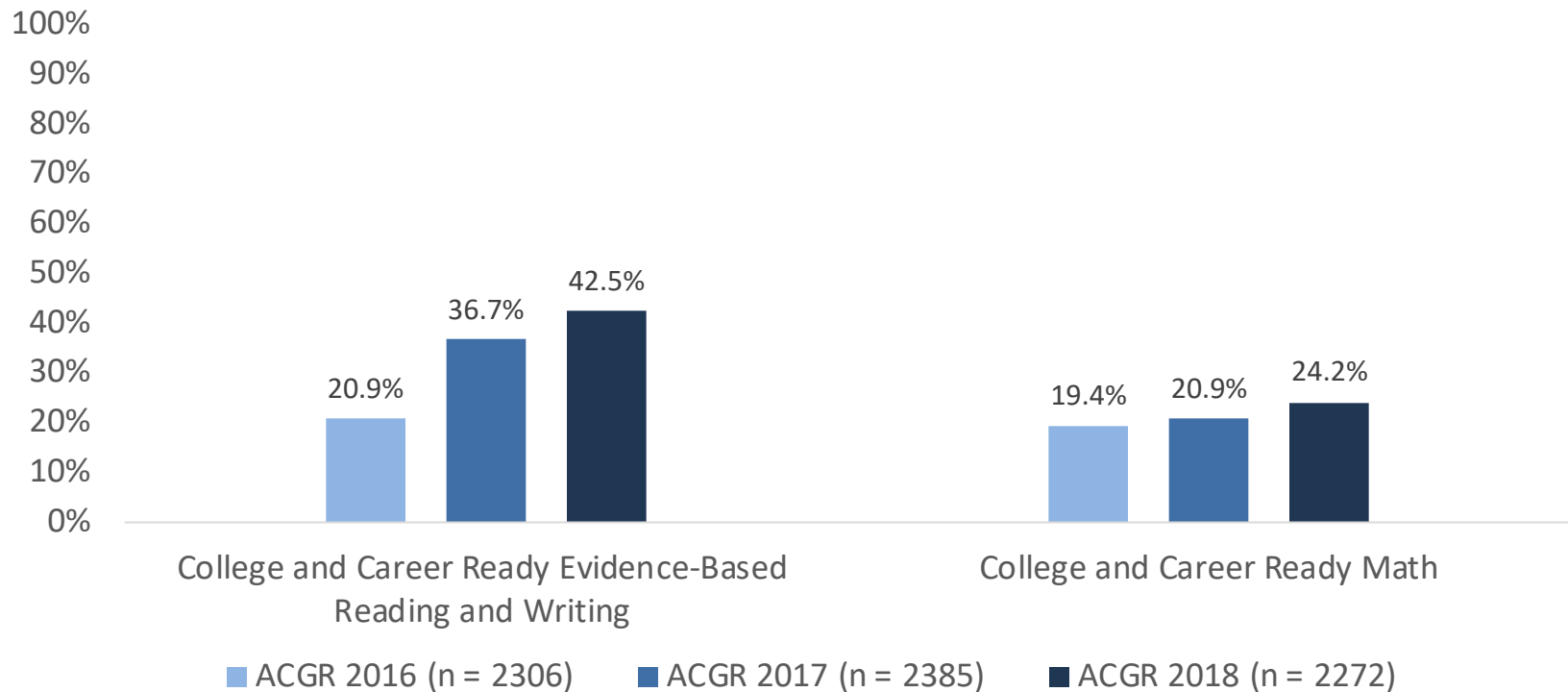
Note. n represents the number of <u>graduates</u> within the ACGR cohort. Nationwide, **70%** of the Class of 2018 met the Evidence-Based Reading and Writing benchmark and **49%** met the Math benchmark.

DCPS is committed to promoting **equity** and **excellence** in all of our schools and setting all students up for post-secondary success.

Appendix

4-Year ACGR Cohorts by Year

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Transfer/Withdrawn Students	229	319	445	592	680	679	765	725	889
Number of Documents Accepted	16	70	158	255	410	497	565	632	755
% of Eligible Students Removed	**7%**	**22%**	**36%**	**43%**	**60%**	**73%**	**74%**	**87%**	**85%**
Graduation Rate if All Removed	60%	62%	65%	69%	72%	75%	78%	71%	68%

4-Year ACGR Cohort	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Cohort	4,001	3,990	3,608	3,627	3,454	3,343	3,258	3,311	3,334
Grads	2,120	2,137	2,038	2,088	2,223	2,306	2,385	2,272	2,170
Non-Grads	1,881	1,853	1,570	1,539	1,231	1,037	873	1,039	1,164
4-Year Graduation Rate	**53%**	**54%**	**56%**	**58%**	**64%**	**69%**	**73%**	**69%**	**65%**

4-Year ACGR Cohorts by Year

	Cohort Size									# Grads (in cohort)
	2011	**2012**	**2013**	**2014**	**2015**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019***	**2019***
Comprehensive										
Anacostia HS	321	345	278	293	233	224	163	154	104	51
Ballou HS	397	384	293	265	239	267	251	276	261	152
Cardozo EC	278	216	168	180	162	201	199	203	217	115
Coolidge HS	209	220	180	174	123	132	98	94	115	76
Dunbar HS	244	239	197	249	183	171	194	175	166	126
Eastern HS	194			26	281	278	248	202	189	148
Roosevelt HS	239	272	182	208	169	173	171	196	164	105
Wilson HS	404	384	459	466	499	424	427	443	501	417
H.D. Woodson HS	224	254	233	292	217	192	185	158	180	118
Application										
Benjamin Banneker HS	89	87	73	102	94	72	96	103	108	108
Columbia Heights EC (CHEC)	215	201	234	222	230	222	282	249	270	220
Ellington School of the Arts	96	105	121	122	132	140	123	118	111	114
McKinley Technology HS	174	181	152	143	144	153	124	142	136	143
Phelps ACE HS		93	89	70	43	47	91	66	47	49
School Without Walls HS	112	120	140	124	149	134	150	156	146	147
Opportunity Academies										
Ballou STAY	181	153	108	104	108	87	79	95	135	17
Luke Moore Alternative HS	141	165	155	127	138	160	139	159	145	21
Roosevelt STAY	21	14	16	33	45	49	52	143	169	14
Washington Metropolitan HS		86	125	104	85	75	60	75	51	20

* There were 22 graduates among 105 students (21%) enrolled in non-public schools in the 2019 cohort.