

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE TO THE BOARD

February 17, 2026, Public Board Meeting



2024-25 Six-Year Completion Rate Update

The Six-Year Completion Rate was developed to estimate the percentage of British Columbia students who graduate with a BC Certificate of Graduation (“Dogwood”) or a BC Adult Graduation Diploma (“Adult Dogwood”) within six years of first enrolling in Grade 8. While most students will complete high school within the expected five-year period, some will take longer. The Six-Year Completion Rate does not include students who receive the British Columbia School Completion Certificate (“Evergreen”). The Evergreen certificate recognizes the accomplishments of students with special needs and an Individual Education Plan (IEP), who have met the goals of their education program, other than Graduation.

Selecting a group of students for the calculation:

For each school year, the six-year completion rate is based on a specific cohort of students in a district. All students in the school system are included in a single school-year cohort for a single district. Each cohort consists of students who either:

- Started in Grade 8 in Year 1 (of the six-year period), or
- Arrived in higher grades in later years during the six-year period

While the students may move between districts, the school district of record (for Completion Rate purposes) is **always** the last district in which the student appears in British Columbia during the six-year period. This district is called the *District of Responsibility* – in other words, it is the school district that is responsible for graduating that student. Some students join later in the process, and some leave before graduation. The cohort calculation accounts for all of these changes.

Adjusting for outmigration:

The Dogwood Completion Rate is adjusted for outmigration – i.e., those students who leave British Columbia, but who may successfully complete school elsewhere. This adjustment is made by calculating the outmigration rate for students in Grades 2 through 4 in each district. The logic is that children in these grades cannot “drop out” because they are of school age; therefore, it is reasonable to assume that students in this proxy cohort who are missing from both this district and all other districts in the following year have truly moved out of the province.

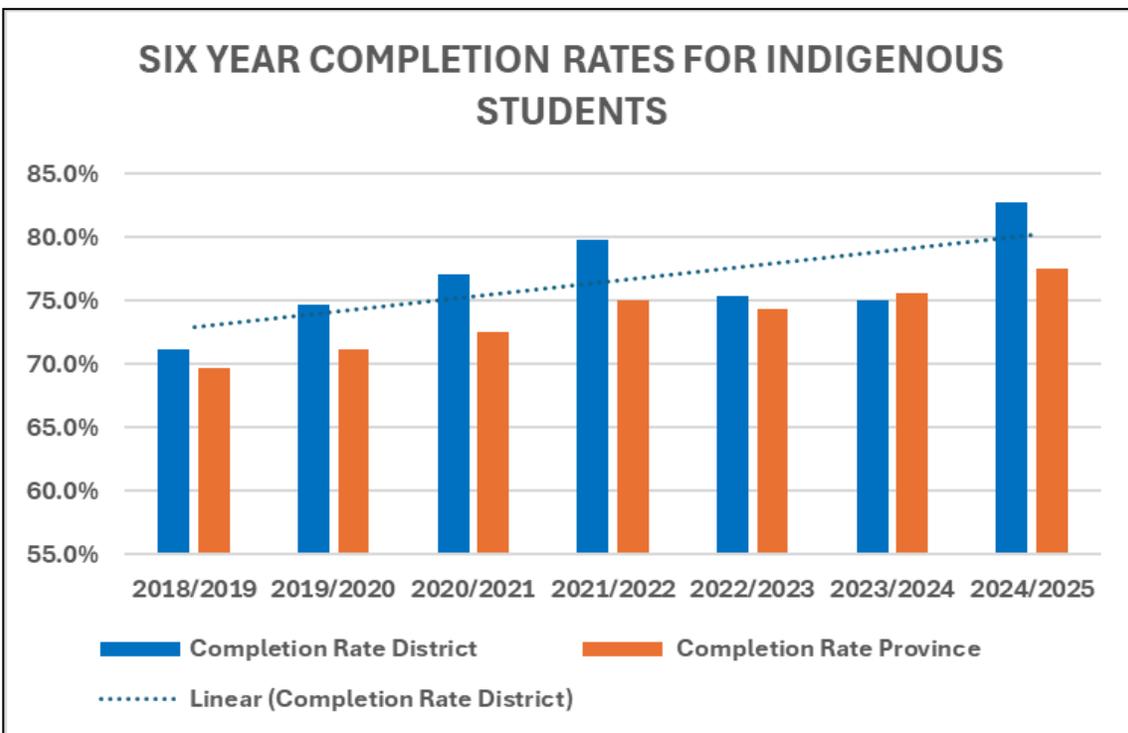
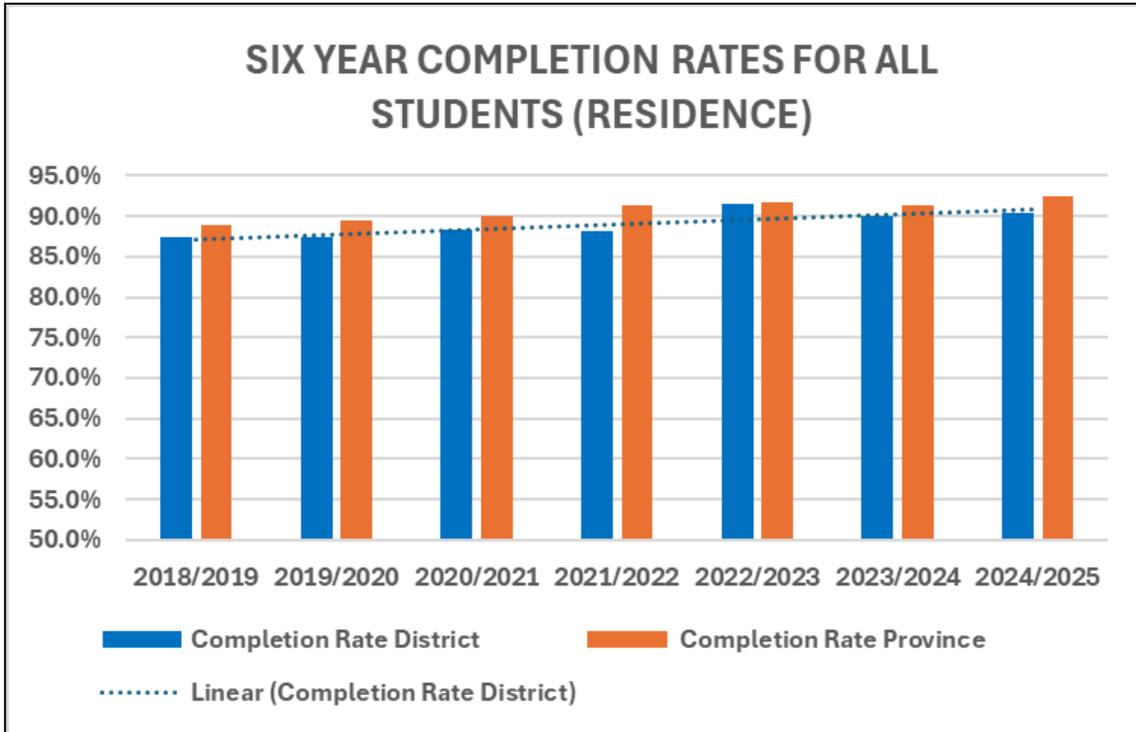
Calculating the Six-Year Completion Rate:

The formula for the Six-Year Completion Rate at the district level can now be calculated as follows:

$$\frac{\text{Graduated students (= Completions)}}{\text{All students in the cohort – Outmigration at the end of the six-year period}}$$

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