



# TDSB Graduation Rates at All-Time High

## 2010-2015 Graduation Rate

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A cohort study follows a group (Grade 9 students) over a period of time (five years) – the time it takes most Ontario students to complete secondary school.

The 2010-2015 graduation rate for the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) is 85%, an increase of 1% from the previous Fall 2009-2014 cohort. Since the TDSB began tracking graduation rates in 2000 there has been a 16% increase (69% to 85%).

Increases year over year show that the TDSB is making steady progress in the areas that directly impact students and their well-being. By providing targeted supports for at-risk students, supporting caring adult programs, expanding partnership opportunities with college, university, government and community agencies, the TDSB is able to connect students with the right programs and supports to help students graduate from high school.

We will continue to focus on Student Success Initiatives by providing professional learning opportunities for teachers and administrators, we will also continue building relationships with parents/guardians and community members to support learning and success for all students.

### BACKGROUND

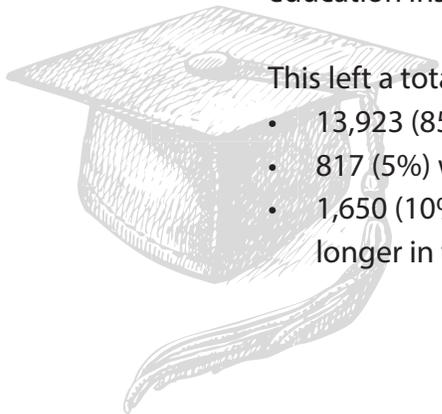
#### What Is The Grade 9 Cohort?

This is the 11th successive Toronto District School Board (TDSB) Grade 9 cohort study. A cohort study follows a group of students (Grade 9 students) over a period of time (five years) it takes most Ontario students to complete secondary school.

There were 18,119 students in the TDSB on October 31, 2010, who were between 13 and 15 years of age and who were new to secondary school. We looked at how those students were doing exactly five years after they started, that is, as of October 31, 2015. By this time, 1,729 students had exited the TDSB. Reasons for 'exit' include other boards, provinces, countries, education institutions, deceased, and private schools (according to exit codes).

This left a total of 16,390 students in the study. As of October 31, 2015:

- 13,923 (85%) students had graduated;
- 817 (5%) were still enrolled in the TDSB (as of October 31, 2015);
- 1,650 (10%) had dropped out (according to our records they had not graduated, were no longer in the TDSB, and had not transferred to another educational institution).





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## Fall 2000 to Fall 2010 Cohorts, Graduation Rate

There has been a steadily increasing cohort graduation rate over the past 10 cohort years. In the most recent cohort (Fall 2010-2015) there were 13,923 students (out of a total 16,390 students) that had a record of an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) or had completed 30+ credits; resulting in an 85% graduation rate. This was an increase of 1% from the previous Fall 2009-2014 cohort, and an increase of 16% since the earlier baseline from the Fall 2000-2005 cohort (69% to 85%) (see Figure 1).

## Graduation Rate-Comparison to the Ministry

The Ministry of Education will be publishing the graduation rates for Ontario school boards. The Ministry's calculation will most likely result in a lower graduation rate for the TDSB because the Ministry employs a different methodology in calculating school board graduation rates.

Figure 1: TDSB Five Year Graduation Rate, the 2000 through 2010 Cohorts

