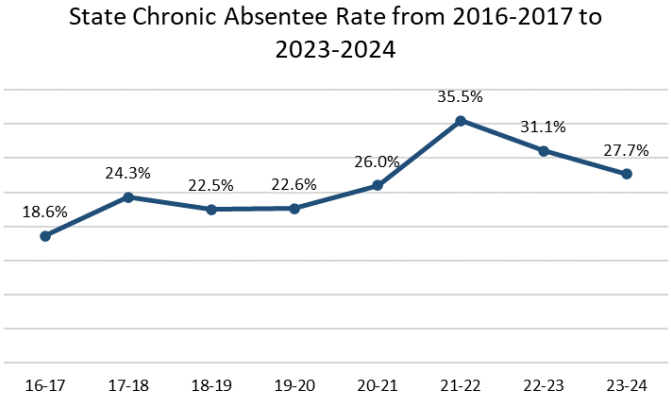
COLORADO
Department of Education

Summary of 2023-24 Attendance data release

Attendance metrics stalled in 2023-24

Overall, attendance metrics in 2023-24 improved in comparison to 2022-23. This included:

- An improvement in the chronic absenteeism rate from 31.1% to 27.7%. This is a reduction of 3.4 percentage points and represents about 28,000 fewer students who were chronically absent and had more consistent engagement in learning.
- About 69% of districts had chronic absentee rates and attendance rates that were the same or better (127 of the 185 Local Education Agencies or BOCES in both cases).
- An improvement in the attendance rate from 90.8% to 91.5%.



Large numbers of students have inconsistent attendance

Chronic absenteeism is still impacting many districts, schools, and students. This includes:

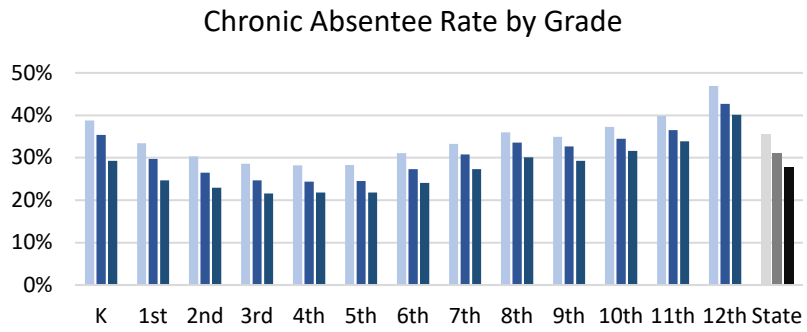
- More than 1 out of every 4 CO students were chronically absent, representing 241,119 students.
- More than 30% of 8th, 10th, 11th, and 12th graders were chronically absent, as were nearly 30% of Kindergarteners and 9th graders.

Attendance definitions:

Average Daily Attendance	Number of days attended over number of days enrolled
Chronic Absenteeism	Missing more than 10% of enrolled school days (excused and unexcused)
Truancy	Unexcused absences over number of days enrolled

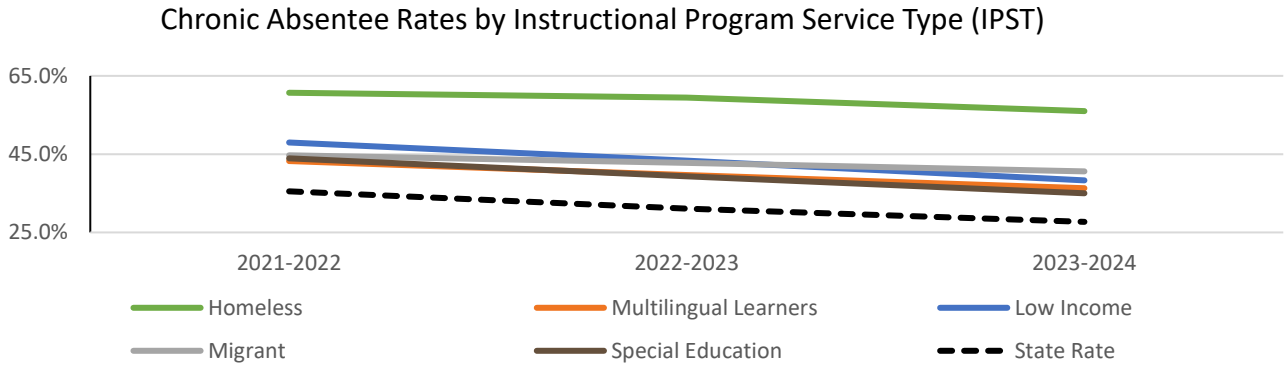
Dropout Prevention and Student Reengagement website

August 2025



Rates for student groups

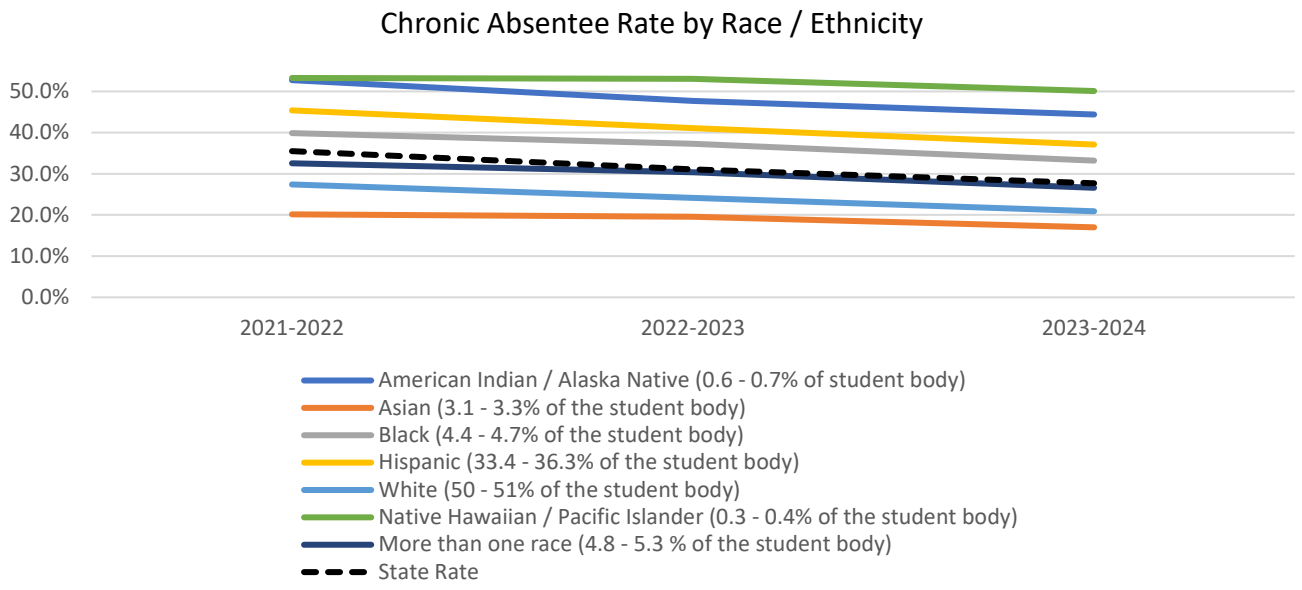
Some student groups had higher rates of chronic absenteeism than the statewide average of 27.7%. This included Multilingual learners (36.3%), Students with IEPs (35.0%), Students who qualify for free/reduced price lunch (38.3%), Homeless students (56.0%) and Migrant students (40.6%). All student groups saw reductions.



Rates by student race/ethnicity

Rates of Chronic absenteeism decreased in all racial student groups but remain inconsistent. Trends include:

- The two groups with the highest rates are also the smallest groups of students:
  - American Indian/Alaska Native (5,498 total students – 44.4%)
  - Hawaiian Pacific Islander (3,141 total students – 50.1%)
- Black/African American and Hispanic students were above the state average of 27.7% (33.2% and 37.1%, respectively).
- White students, Asian students, and students with two or more races were below the average (20.9%, 17.0% and 26.6%, respectively).



Resources

- CDE's office of Dropout Prevention and Student Re-engagement has compiled resources on evidence-based practices to improve attendance and promising practices from around the state.
- CDE's Data Services team collects and publishes annual attendance data.