



# Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## LPSS Shares Highest Graduation Rate To Date

Recently, the Louisiana Department of Education released data regarding 2019 graduation rates. The Lafayette Parish School System is pleased to share the overall results from the district as well as results from the individual high schools.

Of the 42,650 graduates in the state of Louisiana, 1,882 students graduated from LPSS in 2019. LPSS is excited to announce that this figure represents the highest graduation rate to date (since national tracking began in 2005-06 school year) of 78.3%, surpassing the 2018 rate of 76.6%. This is an increase of 1.7 percentage points.

According to Associate Superintendent Francis Touchet, “The main reason the district has seen this growth is the result of strategic planning and deliberate execution. Traditionally, the district has struggled with graduation rates for students with disabilities (SWD). District staff, along with school leaders and teachers, have worked collaboratively to improve the performance of SWD. Having the right focus from the beginning helps all students reach their individual goals and their overarching goal of graduation.”

The data indicates that in addition to students with disabilities, African Americans and students who are economically disadvantaged also suffer from low graduation rates.

Each high school achieved high graduation rates or demonstrated growth in different areas. Below is an overview by high school for 2019.

- Acadiana High School
  - The graduation rate 79.5% follows the trend of exceeding the district’s average rate of 78.3%.
- Carencro High School
  - Overall graduation rate increased by 8%.
  - Students with disabilities rate increased by 28.8%.
  - Hispanic students rate increase by 44.3%
  - African American and economically disadvantaged students rate increased by 11.1% and 11.8% respectively.
- Ovey Comeaux High School
  - Overall graduation rates increased by 1.2%.
  - Students with disabilities rate increased by 16.6%.

- Economically disadvantaged students rate increased by 2.7%.
- David Thibodaux STEM Magnet Academy
  - Leads the district with the highest graduation rate of over 95%.
- Early College Academy
  - The graduation rate 95% follows the trend of exceeding the district's average rate of 78.3%.
- Lafayette High School
  - Overall graduation rate increased by 2.5%.
  - Students with disabilities increase by 20%.
  - Hispanic students rate increased by 8.2%.
  - African American students rate increased by 7.4%
  - Economically disadvantaged students rate increased by 3.5%.
- Northside High School
  - Students with disabilities increase by 24.7%
- Southside High School
  - 2019 data not available due to 2020 being the first graduating class.

Graduation rates are an indicator of overall success of a school district. The goal of LPSS is to continue to ensure every student is career or college ready when they leave our schools. Graduation rates are one of the metrics utilized to indicate how successful the district is in meeting those goals.

Further LPSS data can be found here:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1m-wYC3j\\_aV\\_pB4nY1lxpprLilZvXJ25i/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1m-wYC3j_aV_pB4nY1lxpprLilZvXJ25i/view?usp=sharing).

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