

PERFORMANCE MATTERS

News from the CSDE Performance Office



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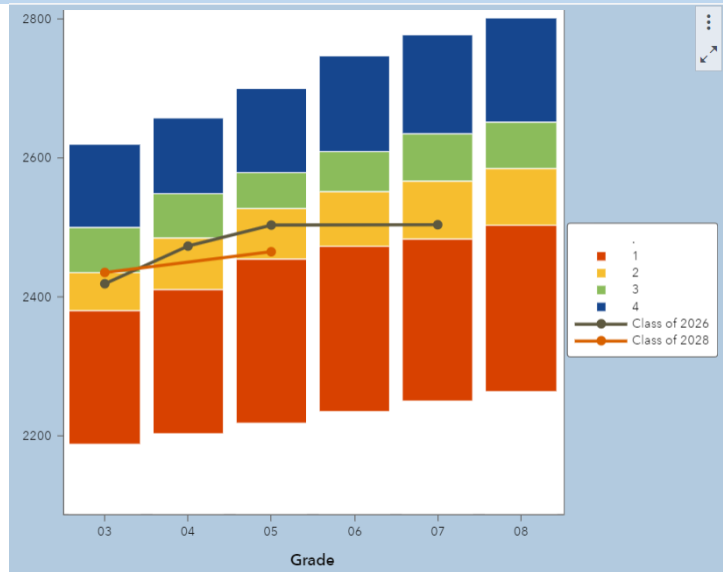
Use Rough Cohort Data in EdSight Secure to Visualize Pandemic Impact

One way for authorized users in districts/schools to visualize the impact of the pandemic on student learning is to use the rough cohort data tab in the Smarter Balanced Achievement report within [EdSight Secure](#).

A “rough” cohort compares the achievement of a group of students from one grade in year 1 to a group of students in a higher grade in a subsequent year (e.g., Grade 3 in 2017-18 to Grade 4 in 2018-19). Instead of simply comparing year-over-year performance for the same grade (e.g., Grade 3 in 2017-18 to Grade 3 in 2018-19), the rough cohort provides a rough estimate of how groups of students (rough cohorts) are progressing through the grades.

Unlike a “rough” cohort, a “matched” cohort compares the growth of the same students over time. However, during the pandemic, Connecticut is unable to apply its annual growth model due to missing test scores in 2019-20. Therefore, the rough cohort provides a reasonable proxy.

The rough cohort tab in the Smarter Balanced Achievement Report labels the rough cohort as “classes” based on the tested grade *and* the number of years to Grade 12. See figure above. This district example compares the mathematics achievement trend for the **Class of 2026** (currently in Grade 8) to the **Class of 2028** (currently in Grade 6). Instead of



percent level 3 or 4, it displays average performance of the group on the Smarter Balanced achievement levels across grades. It allows us to see how these two classes progressed from Grade 3 to Grade 5 in two different time periods — **Class of 2026** from 2016-17 to 2018-19 (pre-pandemic) and the **Class of 2028** from 2018-19 to 2020-21 (through pandemic).

The **Class of 2028** had higher achievement in Grade 3 than the **Class of 2026**. However, the **Class of 2028** shows much weaker growth (less steep) from grades 3 to 5 than the **Class of 2026** and ends up with substantially lower achievement in Grade 5.

To view the impact in Grade 6, simply select the classes of 2025 and 2027; for Grade 7 select 2024 and 2026 and for Grade 8, select 2023 and 2025. If you like a chart, save the image; you can copy and paste that into your slide deck! You can also filter for school or student group. Watch out for Ns below 20!

Effect of the Pandemic on College Enrollment, Persistence, and Graduation

The CSDE conducted multiple analyses to evaluate the impact of the pandemic on postsecondary outcomes. They indicate that:

- College enrollment in the year after high school graduation had been relatively stable in recent years at about 72 percent, but fell by 4.3 percentage points, from 72.4% for the class of 2019 to 68.0% for the class of 2020, the lowest rate in more than a decade. This decline represents 1,848 fewer high school graduates enrolled in college than were enrolled from the class of 2019.
- Unlike in prior years, during the pandemic, freshmen did not return for their sophomore year at similar rates. Persistence rates, stable for years at 88% dipped to 85%, and dropped most significantly for 2- year college enrollees.

- It is also likely that the pandemic slowed credit attainment at various points in students' college careers and delayed graduation. Four-year college graduation rates dipped for the first time in several years, declining from 37.9% for the class of 2016 to 34.7% for the class of 2017.

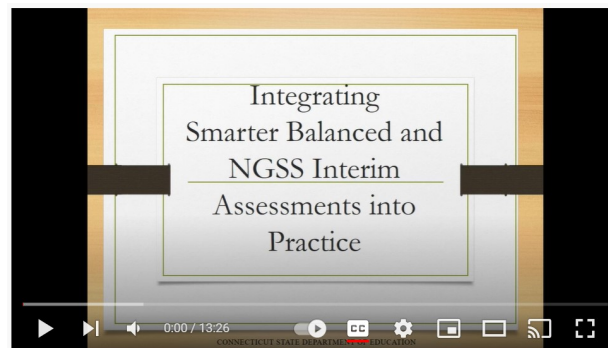
For the full report, please visit [CollegeEnrollmentReport_Oct2021.pdf](#)



The CSDE is implementing a new Individualized Education Program (IEP) document and the Special Education Data System (CT-SEDS) starting with the 2022-23 school year. Visit [New IEP/CT-SEDS](#) for the most up-to-date information, documents, and tools to assist with the roll-out.

Integrating Smarter Balanced and NGSS Interim Assessments into Practice

Check out [this video](#) that will provide you with detailed ideas on how to integrate the math, ELA, and science interim assessment blocks or individual items into your practice beyond giving them simply as formal assessments.



Performance Matters Forum

Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Location: Connecticut Convention Center, Hartford, CT

This year's sessions will feature "Curated Roundtables" for discussions on topics such as Assessment, College and Career Readiness, Student Engagement, Social Emotional Learning and Supports, Special Education, and English Learners. More information will be available after November 10 at <https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Performance/Performance-Matters-Forum/2021/2021-Performance-Matters-Forum>