

Appendix 2

Actual and Projected Numbers of Nebraska High School Graduates

Table A2.1 Numbers of Nebraska High School Graduates 2014-2015 through 2024-2025					
School Year	Type of School/Agency			Total Number of Graduates	One-Year % Change
	Public Schools	Nonpublic Schools	ESU & SO		
14-15	20,281	2,544	87	22,912	-0.4%
15-16	20,562	2,173	210	22,945	0.1%
16-17	20,730	2,537	118	23,385	1.9%
17-18	20,844	2,786	117	23,747	1.5%
18-19	21,311	2,314	138	23,763	0.1%
19-20	21,506	2,569	150	24,225	1.9%
20-21	21,771	2,856	72	24,699	2.0%
21-22	22,170	2,698	88	24,956	1.0%
22-23	22,224	2,442	124	24,790	-0.7%
23-24	22,306	2,347	96	24,749	-0.2%
24-25	22,192	2,340	113	24,645	-0.4%

Note. Graduates do not include GED recipients or completers who did not receive regular diplomas. ESU = Educational service units; SO = State-operated schools. Data source: Nebraska Department of Education, January 2016 (2014-15 data), December 2016 (2015-16 data), December 2017 (2016-17 data), December 2018 (2017-18 data), December 2019 (2018-19 data), December 2020 (2019-20 data), February 2022 (2020-21 data), January 2023 (2021-22 data), December 2023 (2022-23 data), January 2025 (2023-24 data), and January 2026 (2024-25 data).

**Table A2.2
Actual and Projected Numbers of Nebraska High School Graduates
2014-2015 through 2034-2035**

Academic Year	Public by Race/Ethnicity							Public Total	Non Public Total	Total
	White non-Hispanic	Asian/Pacific Islander	Hispanic	Native American	Black non-Hispanic	Two or More Races	Race/Ethnicity Total			
Actual										
14-15	14,817	503	3,026	228	1,112	595	20,281	20,281	2,544	22,825
15-16	15,007	484	3,082	211	1,206	562	20,562	20,562	2,173	22,735
16-17	14,770	573	3,334	240	1,187	626	20,730	20,730	2,537	23,267
17-18	14,854	520	3,486	233	1,157	594	20,844	20,844	2,786	23,630
18-19	14,937	591	3,644	246	1,302	591	21,311	21,311	2,314	23,625
19-20	14,967	603	3,867	210	1,203	656	21,506	21,506	2,569	24,075
20-21	15,036	629	3,909	255	1,252	690	21,771	21,771	2,856	24,627
21-22	15,098	666	4,096	247	1,286	777	22,170	22,170	2,698	24,868
22-23	14,962	684	4,179	233	1,339	827	22,224	22,224	2,442	24,666
23-24	14,617	669	4,603	249	1,352	816	22,306	22,306	2,347	24,653
24-25	14,444	626	4,631	253	1,369	869	22,192	22,192	2,340	24,532
Projected										
24-25	14,175	641	4,461	243	1,261	816	21,597	21,658	2,204	23,862
25-26	14,822	730	4,841	240	1,368	934	22,935	22,993	2,499	25,492
26-27	14,647	711	5,082	246	1,348	943	22,977	23,010	2,445	25,455
27-28	14,357	767	4,966	214	1,333	986	22,623	22,647	2,431	25,078
28-29	14,071	786	4,868	232	1,238	974	22,169	22,190	2,408	24,598
29-30	14,087	836	4,994	252	1,251	1,030	22,450	22,463	2,446	24,909
30-31	13,829	846	5,224	226	1,273	1,054	22,452	22,435	2,534	24,969
31-32	14,018	857	5,474	228	1,255	1,076	22,908	22,857	2,570	25,427
32-33	13,739	827	5,699	236	1,253	1,118	22,872	22,778	2,501	25,279
33-34	13,710	868	6,037	255	1,254	1,206	23,330	23,176	2,527	25,703
34-35	13,104	876	6,006	253	1,205	1,164	22,608	22,547	2,462	25,009

Note. Graduates do not include GED recipients or completers who did not receive regular diplomas. The actual and projected public totals do not include graduates from education service units or state-operated schools. The projected race/ethnicity total may not equal the projected total number of public school graduates because graduates for each race/ethnicity were projected independently from the total public projections. The sum of the projected public and nonpublic graduates may not equal the total graduates, and the sum of the projected races may not equal the race/ethnicity total. For 2024-2025, the actual number of public school graduates (22,192) was 2.5% higher than WICHE predicted (21,597). Data sources: For actual numbers of graduates: Nebraska Department of Education, January 2016 (2014-15 data), December 2016 (2015-16 data), December 2017 (2016-17 data), December 2018 (2017-18 data), December 2019 (2018-19 data), December 2020 (2019-20 data), February 2022 (2020-21 data), January 2022 (2021-22 data), December 2023 (2022-23 data), January 2025 (2023-24 data), and January 2026 (2024-25 data). For projected numbers of graduates: Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, *Knocking at the College Door: Projections of High School Graduates, 2024*.

Table A2.3
Actual and Projected Changes in the Numbers and Percentages of
Nebraska Public High School Graduates by Race/Ethnicity:
2014-2015, 2024-25, and 2034-2035

Race/Ethnicity	2014-2015		2024-2025		Actual % Change 14-15 to 24-25	2034-2035		Projected % Change 24-25 to 34-35
	Actual No. of Grads	% of Actual Grads	Actual No. of Grads	% of Actual Grads		Projected No. of Grads	% of Projected Grads	
White non-Hispanic	14,817	73.1%	14,444	65.1%	-2.5%	13,104	58.0%	-9.3%
Asian/ Pacific Islander	503	2.5%	626	2.8%	24.5%	876	3.9%	39.9%
Hispanic	3,026	14.9%	4,631	20.9%	53.0%	6,006	26.6%	29.7%
Native American	228	1.1%	253	1.1%	11.0%	253	1.1%	0.0%
Black non-Hispanic	1,112	5.5%	1,369	6.2%	23.1%	1,205	5.3%	-12.0%
Two or More Races	595	2.9%	869	3.9%	46.1%	1,164	5.1%	33.9%
Total for Public High Schools	20,281		22,192		9.4%	22,608 ^a		1.9%

Note. Graduates do not include GED recipients or completers who did not receive regular diplomas. Actual counts and projections do not include graduates of educational service units or state-operated schools.

Data source: For actual numbers of graduates: Nebraska Department of Education, January 2016, and January 2026. For projected numbers of graduates: Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, *Knocking at the College Door: Projections of High School Graduates, 2024*.

^a Because projections were made independently for the various race/ethnic groups, the projected race/ethnicity total may not equal the projected total for public school graduates. WICHE projects a total of 22,547 individuals will graduate from Nebraska's public schools in 2034-35. This is a projected increase of 1.6% between 2024-25 and 2034-35.