



Frequently Asked Questions: District at a Glance

Updated December 2015

Q. What is District at a Glance?

A. District at a Glance is a Department of Higher Education information-sharing project that follows Colorado's high school graduates into college and provides information on college enrollment, first-year college outcomes, concurrent enrollment and remedial education. Currently, the [two-page dashboards](#) look at Colorado's High School Class of 2013. Information on high school graduates from 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 can be found in the searchable [District at a Glance database](#).

Q. Why are these guides being released?

A. By 2020, 74 percent of Colorado's jobs will require education beyond high school, according to the [Georgetown Center for Education and the Workforce](#). As part of the ongoing implementation of the Colorado Achievement Plan for Kids, higher education and K-12 have been working together to meet these workforce needs. District at a Glance is a part of those P-20 efforts. The data on the success of high school graduates will enable policymakers, district staff and community members to better evaluate programs and policies and make needed adjustments.

Q. Who is the intended audience for these guides and how are they being distributed?

A. This project is intended to inform the K-12 and higher education communities, as well as state policymakers, students and their families, and other interested stakeholders. Copies of the guides are being mailed to K-12 superintendents and the data are available on the [Department of Higher Education website](#) in an exportable format for easy printing and in a searchable database.

Q. How do I export and print a district's dashboard?

A. Instructions on printing a District at a Glance dashboard are provided at the end of this document.

Q. Where does this information come from?

A. This project relies on data from the Department of Higher Education, the Colorado Department of Education and the National Student Clearinghouse:

- *K-12 to College* - Data between the two state agencies are connected through the State Assigned Student ID, known as SASID, which is given to all public K-12 students.
- *In-state Colleges* - As students move into college, data also are collected using the Student Unit Record Data System or SURDS, a database which includes information from all Colorado public colleges and universities as well as the University of Denver, Regis University and Colorado Christian University.
- *Out-of-state Colleges* - The National Student Clearinghouse database is used to collect information on enrollment and retention rates for Colorado high school graduates who attend out-of-state institutions or private institutions that are currently not included in SURDS.

Q. Can I get this information by high school instead of by district?

A. Yes, please visit the searchable [District at a Glance database](#).



COLORADO

Department of
Higher Education

Q. Are all districts included?

A. No. To ensure student privacy, districts with fewer than 25 graduates were not included in this project. Please use the contact information provided below if you would like to explore options for seeing student data from small districts.

Q. How is the college enrollment rate calculated?

A. District at a Glance calculates college enrollment based upon those students who enrolled in college in the fall immediately following high school graduation. Numerous national organizations, such as the National Center for Higher Education Management Statistics, follow this definition for college-going rates. The majority of students who attend college do so immediately following high school graduation.

Q. How is the remedial education rate calculated?

A. The remedial education rate reported in District at a Glance includes both students assessed as needing remediation and those enrolled in remedial courses who did not have an assessment score on file. This method was developed in consultation with researchers in higher education, the Colorado Department of Education and several school districts. Please see the [DHE webpage](#) on remedial education for more information.

Q. Where do I get more information?

A. Contact K-12 research and data specialist, T. Luke Banaszak, (303) 996-1323
luke.banaszak@dhe.state.co.us

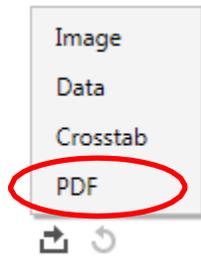


HOW TO PRINT A DASHBOARD:

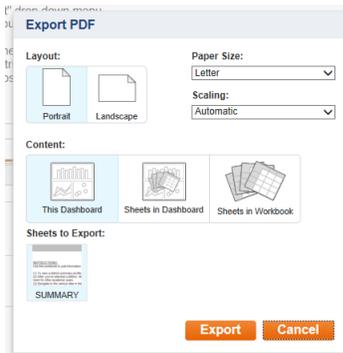
1. Scroll to the bottom of the of the dashboard until you see the following footer:



2. Click on the export button (), which will reveal the following menu:



3. Select "PDF"

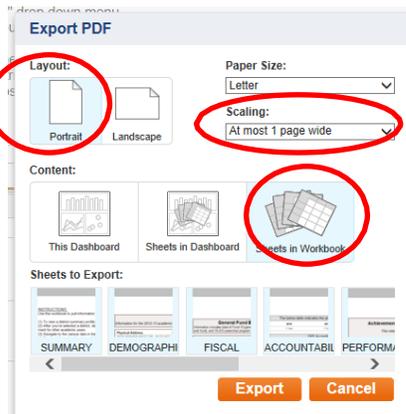


4. Scroll up to the top of the page to see your export options:
5. Be sure the following options are selected (as seen in Figure4):
 - a. **Layout:** Portrait
 - b. **Content:** Sheets in Workbook
 - c. **Paper Size:** Letter
 - d. **Scaling:** At most 1 page wide



COLORADO

Department of
Higher Education



6. Click "Download"
7. Open the PDF in Acrobat Reader and print from the application