COMMON SENSE INSTITUTE

KEYSTONE POLICY CENTER

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HIGHER EDUCATION LAUNCH PAD: THE POSTSECONDARY RESULTS OF THE DSST PUBLIC SCHOOL MODEL

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ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Jason Gaulden – CSI Education Fellow

Jason has spent his professional career working at the intersection of the business and nonprofit sectors. He is a partner at Oak Rose Group, a strategy consulting firm specializing in education, workforce development, and economic mobility. He draws upon 25 years of professional experience in varying roles: executive leadership, philanthropy, communications, grassroots advocacy, research and writing, fund development, and nonprofit board development.

From 2015 to 2020, he worked with America Succeeds, a national network of business leaders focused on modernizing the nation's education system. He co-authored the report The Age of Agility: Education Pathways for the Future of Work. The initiative empowers business leaders, educators, and policymakers to better prepare students for the new workforce and economy.

As a teenager and young adult, Jason had an unusually diverse set of professional experiences, being elected to the NAACP national board of directors at the age of 18, becoming a grassroots advocate and executive director of Hillside Neighborhood Association at age 19, and becoming youth director at the Pikes Peak Region Urban League at age 21.

Jason served as the program officer for education at Daniels Fund from 2005 to 2009, and before that, a Senior Fellow at El Pomar Foundation from 2001 to 2005. Jason is a graduate of the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology. He lives in Denver, Colorado.

Chris Brown – CSI Vice President of Policy and Research

Chris joined CSI in 2017 and leads the research efforts to provide insightful, accurate and actionable information on the implications of public policy issues throughout the state of Colorado.

With an extensive background in economics and public policy, Chris has made significant contributions to understanding complex economic issues within Colorado and beyond. Highlights of his work include reports on the economic effects of major ballot measures and legislation including, Proposition HH on property tax reform, Proposition 118 on the creation of a state paid leave program, predictive scheduling legislation, the Colorado option health plan among many more. Prior to joining CSI, Chris spent close to a decade working for REMI (Regional Economic Models Inc), establishing their Washington D.C. office.

Cole Anderson – CSI Research Analyst

Cole joined CSI in June of 2022.

Before joining CSI, Cole attended the University of Denver where he double majored in Economics and Public Policy, fostering his passion for pressing policy issues. His work at CSI has covered various topics including crime, healthcare, foster care, and workforce issues.

Van Schoales – Report Contributor

Van is senior policy director at the Keystone Policy Center. He is one of the two Founding Partners of Education Civil Rights Now and the former President of A+ Colorado, a research and advocacy organization founded by Senator Michael Bennet and Mayor Federico Pena designed to improve public education in Colorado. Van has 36 years of experience leading education improvement efforts from the classroom to the statehouse.

Van is an award winning public high school science teacher (National Association of Geoscience Teachers and Stanford University) along with having been a successful school leader in independent, public district and public charter schools for the first half of his career.

ABOUT COMMON SENSE INSTITUTE

Common Sense Institute is a non-partisan research organization dedicated to the protection and promotion of Colorado's economy. CSI is at the forefront of important discussions about the future of free enterprise and aims to impact the issues that matter most to Coloradans. CSI's mission is to examine the fiscal impacts of policies, initiatives, and proposed laws so that Coloradans are educated and informed on issues impacting their lives. CSI employs rigorous research techniques and dynamic modeling to evaluate the potential impact of these measures on the economy and individual opportunity.

TEAMS & FELLOWS STATEMENT

CSI is committed to independent, in-depth research that examines the impacts of policies, initiatives, and proposed laws so that Coloradans are educated and informed on issues impacting their lives. CSI's commitment to institutional independence is rooted in the individual independence of our researchers, economists, and fellows. At the core of CSI's mission is a belief in the power of the free enterprise system. Our work explores ideas that protect and promote jobs and the economy, and the CSI team and fellows take part in this pursuit with academic freedom. Our team's work is informed by data-driven research and evidence. The views and opinions of fellows do not reflect the institutional views of CSI. CSI operates independently of any political party and does not take positions.

INTRODUCTION AND DSST SCHOOL BACKGROUND

Founded in 2004 as a high school in Denver's Central Park neighborhood, Denver School of Science & Technology (DSST) is now nationally renowned for its unique design, diversity, and consistent high achievement—considered one of the leading open enrollment STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) schools in the United States.

DSST's mission is to transform urban public education by eliminating educational inequity and preparing all students for success in college and the 21st century. With a focus on character development and rigorous academics in equal measure, which are represented by DSST's six core values: Respect, Responsibility, Integrity, Courage, Curiosity, and Doing Your Best.[i]

Having grown to a multi-school network, the single school has evolved into DSST Public Schools—a charter management organization that operates STEM schools—an interdisciplinary approach that helps students succeed in college and their future careers, with a focus on hands-on, problem-based learning.

DSST serves nearly 7,400 students across eight middle schools and eight high schools. The seven middle schools within the Denver school district accounted for 13% of all Denver middle school students. The seven Denver high schools accounted for 12% of all high school students. DSST launched Aurora Science and Tech Middle School and High School within the last five years to serve students in Aurora. DSST schools deliver a 100% rate of admittance into college or postsecondary programs.

The network is highly diverse and intentional about maintaining that asset. Today, the student population is comprised of:

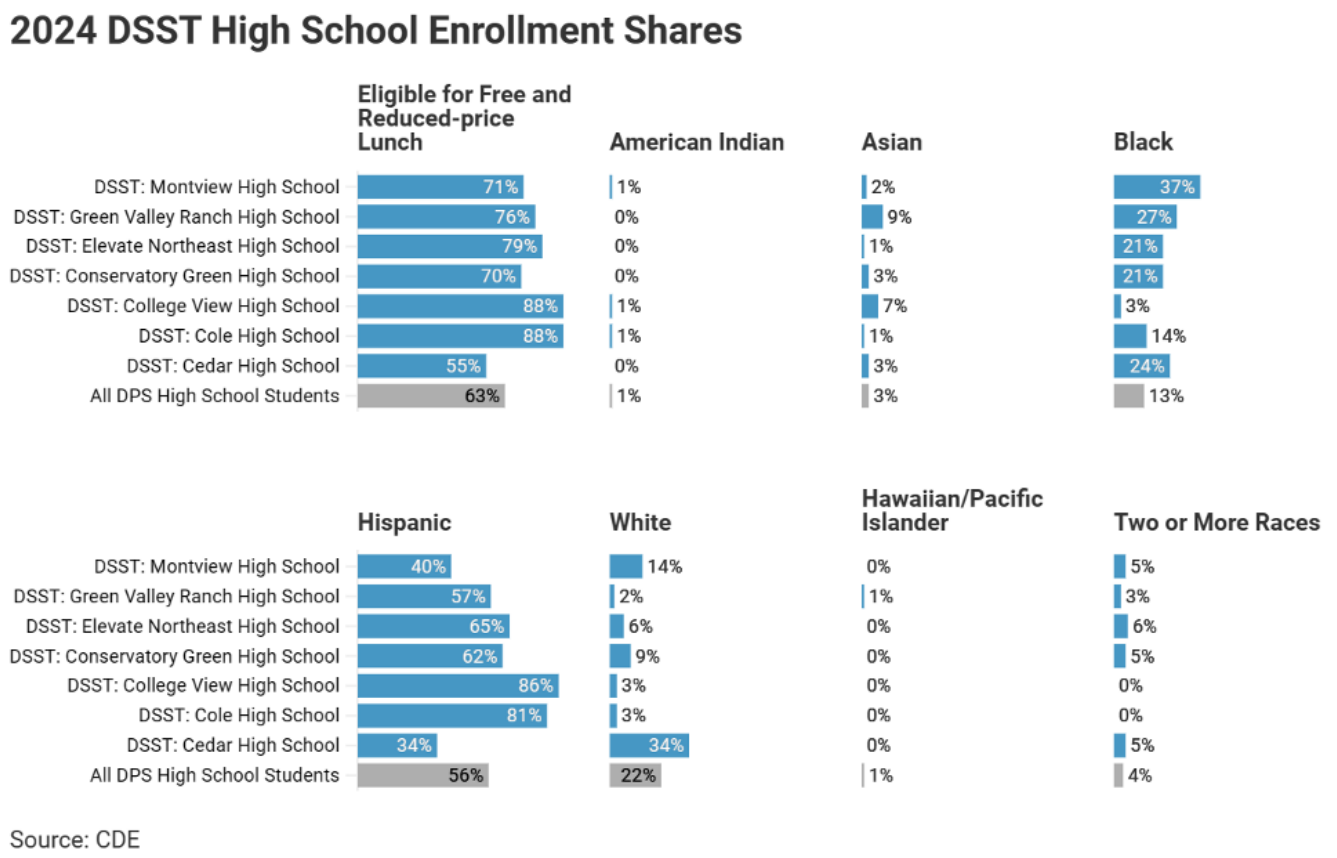
FIGURE 1

DSST Student Population Breakdown			
Student Group by Race/Gender	**Share**	**Student Group by Category**	**Share**
Hispanic/Latino	61%	Non-Special Needs Students	78%
Black/African American	20%	Free and Reduced Lunch (FRL) Qualifying	77%
White	11%	Multiple Language Learners	35%
Asian	4%	Non-Free and Reduced Lunch (FRL) Qualifying	23%
Two or more races	4%	Special Needs Students	13%
Other	1%	Gifted and Talented Students	9%
Male	53%		
Female	47%		

DSST serves a higher share of lower income students and students of color than Denver Public Schools (DPS). 77% of students receive free or reduced lunch across all DSST schools, compared to 64% across DPS, on average. Three DSST middle schools and two DSST high schools have FRL shares higher than 80%.

61% of DSST students are Hispanic and 20% are Black. This compares to 50% of DPS middle school students and 56% of DPS high school students who are Hispanic. 14% of DPS middle school students and 13% of DPS high school students are Black.

FIGURE 2



Source: CDE

FIGURE 3

2024 DSST Middle School Enrollment Shares

	Eligible for Free and Reduced-price Lunch	American Indian	Asian	Black
DSST: Montview Middle School	77%	0%	3%	38%
DSST: Green Valley Ranch Middle School	79%	0%	10%	25%
DSST: Elevate Northeast Middle School	85%	1%	1%	19%
DSST: Conservatory Green Middle School	71%	0%	4%	19%
DSST: College View Middle School	89%	0%	3%	3%
DSST: Cole Middle School	91%	1%	1%	17%
DSST: Cedar Middle School	53%	0%	4%	18%
All DPS Middle School Students	64%	0%	4%	14%

	Hispanic	White	Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	Two or More Races
DSST: Montview Middle School	39%	12%	0%	7%
DSST: Green Valley Ranch Middle School	54%	5%	2%	4%
DSST: Elevate Northeast Middle School	70%	4%	0%	4%
DSST: Conservatory Green Middle School	63%	8%	0%	5%
DSST: College View Middle School	88%	4%	0%	2%
DSST: Cole Middle School	74%	4%	2%	2%
DSST: Cedar Middle School	29%	41%	0%	8%
All DPS Middle School Students	50%	25%	1%	6%

Source: CDE

Under Colorado law, public charter schools have no ability to exercise unfair selectivity in student admissions. While there are some allowable accommodations to help siblings attend school together, there is no mechanism for filtering students by academic performance, race, or income.

However, DSST is deliberate in its outreach and recruitment efforts to ensure broad diversity in the families that know about DSST as an option and, consequently, the students who proactively enroll.

School leaders and staff help shape the students' experience through rigorous and specialized courses—STEM and otherwise—to create the conditions for students to develop critical thinking and inquiry skills necessary for life after high school. DSST schools prepare students with college and career-ready skills to ensure they are successful in those settings.

Connected middle and high schools allows DSST to work with students early in their schooling. Beginning as early as freshman year, DSST works closely with students and their families to provide individualized support to navigate the college-application and selection process. Even beyond DSST, the staff remain connected with the graduates throughout their college years.

Students are exposed to various Advanced Placement (AP) courses with passing rates among the highest in Colorado. Aside from the regular English language arts, social studies, arts and electives, natural science, and secondary math courses, DSST requires students to complete three years of Spanish, and an internship. These requirements are not typically included in other school districts.

With the same accountability standards as all other public schools in Colorado, DSST must meet state requirements regarding accreditation, adhere to content standards and graduation requirements, and participate in annual state testing for which results are made public.

Naturally, this raises several questions. How has DSST been able to produce such impressive student outcomes so consistently over time? How does DSST student performance—both secondary and postsecondary—compare with other public-school students? Why are other schools serving similarly diverse populations not achieving similar results?

This analysis provides insights into the data that makes DSST so unique in its success and service to students. It reveals a high correlation between attending a DSST high school and having high college matriculation, attainment, and completion rates.

Key Findings:

- **DSST Montview High School's postsecondary credential attainment was three times the district average.** At 51%, DSST Montview High School had the highest rate of students earning a postsecondary credential within six years of graduating among all 45 Denver Public Schools. DSST Green Valley High School had the eighth-highest rate among all district high schools at 29%. The overall DPS average rate, inclusive of DSST schools, was 17%. Given DSST outperformed the district average, if their results were excluded, the difference between DSST schools and non-schools would be even greater.
- **21% of DSST Montview High School and 19% of DSST Green Valley Ranch High School lower income students from the 2016 graduating class earned some form of postsecondary education by 2022, more than doubling the DPS average of 8% for all lower income students.**
- **1 in 10 credential attainers from Denver public high school's 2016 class graduated from a DSST school, while DSST accounted for just 1 of every 25 high school seniors.** Given the school's higher-than-average graduation rates and postsecondary credential attainment rates, they accounted for 9.6% of all postsecondary credentials by 2022. DSST Montview and DSST Green Valley High Schools' lower income student population accounted for 3.6% of the district population yet were 11% of postsecondary credential attainers.
- **133% increase in the number of students who earned some form of postsecondary credential, if DPS achieved DSST rates.**
    - The net increase in annual earnings of the 2016 DPS graduating class reaching DSST achievement rates, including 1,109 new postsecondary attainers, would be $38,000,000, or $1.5 billion in net lifetime earnings. The average difference in lifetime earnings for a student who does not graduate high school, compared to a student that receives a 4-year degree is $1.34 million.

- **DSST schools serve a diverse student body.** Nearly all of DSST's Denver schools have higher rates of students receiving free and reduced lunch than the district average. Most of their schools also educate higher rates of minority students, specifically Black or African American and Hispanic or Latino students, than the district average.
    - Graduation rates across DSST high schools show similar outperformance when compared to the district average. All six DSST high schools with a graduating class outperformed the district average 2023 graduation rate of all students. Groups with large enough sample sizes also outperformed the district average including lower income students, Black or African American students, and Hispanic or Latino students.

DSST POSTSECONDARY ATTAINMENT PERFORMANCE AND WHAT THAT MEANS FOR STUDENT LIFETIME OUTCOMES

Credential attainment is increasingly important for success in today's labor market. Those postsecondary credentials can include 2-year degrees, 4-year degrees, and advanced degrees, along with certificates from institutions of higher education. The Colorado Department of Higher Education reports postsecondary credential attainment through their website, *Pathways to Prosperity: Postsecondary Access and Success for Colorado's High School Graduates.*[ii]

The data reported through the Pathways to Prosperity website comes from multiple sources, including the Colorado Department of Education, Student Unit Record Data System (SURDS), and the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC).

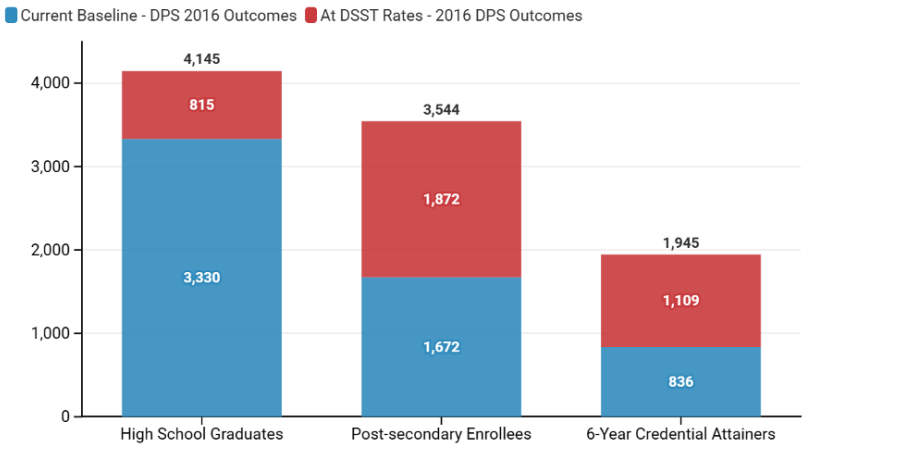
The CDHE Pathways to Prosperity website reports credential attainment rates for Colorado high school graduating classes back to 2010. The credential attainment as reported by CDHE is defined as the percent of students from a high school that enroll in a postsecondary institution and complete a credential within the specified time frame. High school classes prior to 2016 include postsecondary graduates through the spring term of the defined time frame. The 2016 and later high school graduating classes include graduating students through the summer term of the defined time frame. The 6-year credential attainment rate for the 2016 high school graduating class through the summer of 2022 is the latest data available. At that time, DSST had just two high schools open with a 12th grade graduating class. In 2023, four of the top five high schools in the Denver public school system with the highest college enrollment rates were part of the DSST network as reported by DPS compiling National Student Clearinghouse data.

FIGURE 4

DSST's 2016 Class Performance Applied to All DPS 2016 Seniors

Each bar shows the current outcomes of DPS's 2016 senior class in blue, along with the increase in students in red if all of DPS achieved DSST rates.

If DPS's 2016 graduating class of 4,955 students performed at the average rates of DSST's 2016 graduating class, an additional 815 students would have graduated high school, 1,872 more would have enrolled in postsecondary education, and 1,109 more students would have received a credential within 6 years of graduating high school.



To measure and compare the success of each DPS school's 12th grade class in the latest available data, CSI developed a postsecondary credential attainment rate for each school reported in the data. This rate is derived by multiplying the school's graduation rates, by its postsecondary enrollment rates, and then by its credential attainment rates. This formula allows for the share of each 12th grade class that earns a postsecondary credential to be compared, rather than just the share of those that graduate and then enroll in a postsecondary institution.

Given this measurement, DSST Montview High School, called DSST Stapleton at the time, had the highest rate of postsecondary credential attainment within six years as a share of its 2016 final grad base of all 45 DPS high schools reported. DSST Green Valley Ranch High School had the eighth-highest attainment rate as a share of its 2016 final grad base.

If all Denver high schools achieved the postsecondary credential attainment rate as a share of their 2016 graduating class, as the average of DSST Montview and DSST Green Valley Ranch High Schools, there would be an additional 1,109 credential attainers from just that single class (Figure 4). That is an increase of 133% from the current estimate of 836 students.

The blue portion of each bar in Figure 4 shows the reported and estimated outcomes for all DPS high schools. Of the 4,955 students in the 2016 12th-grade DPS class, 3,330 graduated, 1,672 enrolled in a postsecondary education institution the following fall semester, and 836 obtained a postsecondary credential within 6 years, .or through summer 2022.

The red portion shows the additional DPS students achieving each outcome if the entire district were to achieve the 2016 DSST average rates. Ultimately, this would mean that 39% of the 2016 final grad base of DPS 12th grade students would obtain some form of postsecondary credential. This is shown in Figure 4 as an increase of 1,109 students, in addition to the 836 estimated to have actually earned a credential, for a total of 1,945 students of the entire 4,955 final grad base.

National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) data indicates that average annual earnings consistently increase at higher levels of educational attainment.[iii] Using the latest available NCES estimates adjusted for inflation, if DPS students obtained postsecondary credentials at the average rate of DSST schools in 2016, there would be an increase in total average annual earnings of $37,932,928. The total increase in lifetime earnings, equal to 40 years, would be $1.517 billion net. Each additional credential attainer would earn an average of $2.9 million over their lifetime.

FIGURE 5

Outcomes for 2016 Final Grad Base Cohort of ALL Students				
School	Graduation Rate	Postsecondary Enrollment Rate	6-Year Credential Attainment Rate of those that Enroll	6-Year Credential Attainment Rate of 2016 Final Grad Base of Students
DSST: Montview	86.1%	87.0%	68.1%	51%
DSST: Green Valley	81.2%	81.8%	43.1%	29%
DSST Average	83.7%	84.4%	55.6%	39%
DPS Actual	67.2%	50.2%	50.0%	17%
Outcomes for 2016 Final Grad Base Cohort of FRL ONLY Students				
School	Graduation Rate	Postsecondary Enrollment Rate	6-Year Credential Attainment Rate of those that Enroll	6-Year Credential Attainment Rate of 2016 Final Grad Base of FRL Students
DSST: Montview	80.3%	84.8%	59%	21%
DSST: Green Valley	78.3%	78.9%	44.4%	19%
DSST Average	79.3%	81.9%	51.7%	20%
DPS Actual	62.1%	44.5%	40.6%	8%

Of note, students enroll in 4-year institutions at a much higher rate coming from DSST high schools compared to the district average.

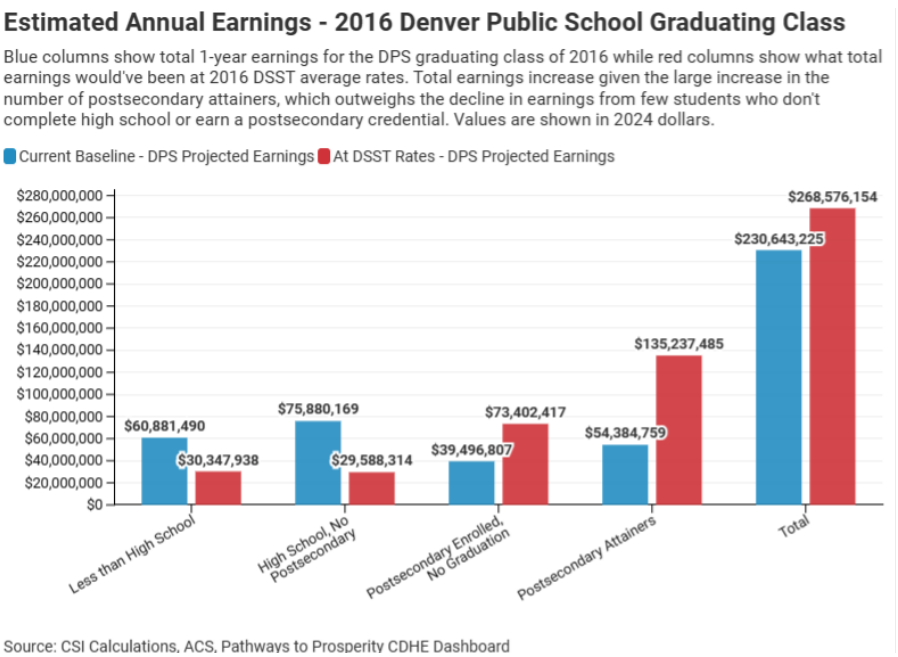
FIGURE 6

Postsecondary Enrollment by Institution Type		
School	Enrolled at 2-Year Institution	Enrolled at 4-Year Institution
DSST: Montview	4.30%	95.70%
DSST: Green Valley	11.10%	88.90%
DSST Average	7.70%	92.30%
DPS Actual	31%	69%

A worker's educational attainment is a key indicator of their potential earnings. Thus, increasing postsecondary attainment is a top priority for Colorado's educational system.

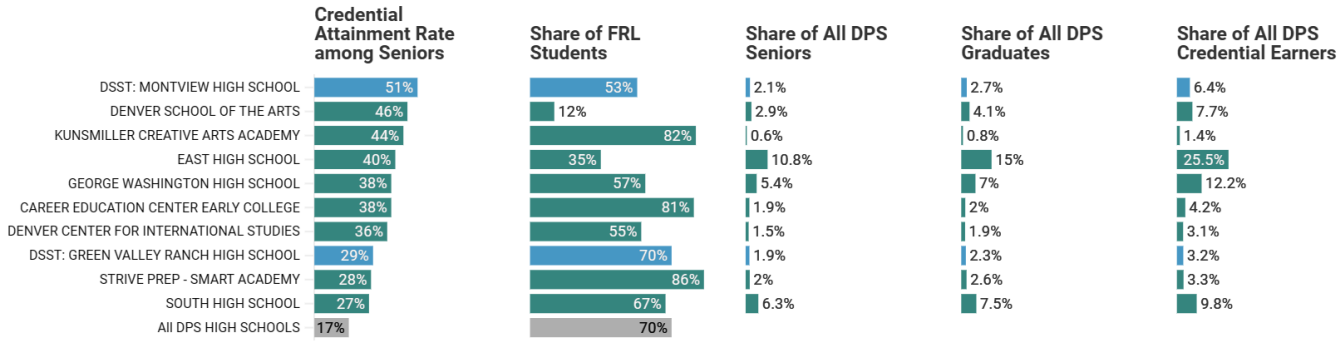
The first two columns show earnings at DSST rates below earnings at current DPS rates, given there are more students achieving higher educational attainment levels under DSST outcomes. The analysis assumes each student earns a fixed amount at each educational level, thus values are higher for DSST at higher education levels and lower at the first two levels.

FIGURE 7



Source: CSI Calculations, ACS, Pathways to Prosperity CDHE Dashboard

FIGURE 8

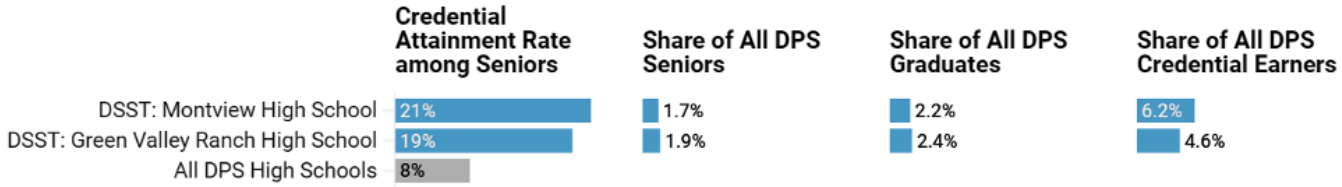


Source: CDE, CDHE Pathways to Prosperity Dashboard • DSST schools that did not have 2016 graduating classes are not shown. - Schools such as East, South, and George Washington have large shares of credential earners given their larger share of all students.

DSST continues to outperform DPS averages when comparing FRL students. Despite a traditionally lower credential attainment rate, FRL students attending Green Valley and Montview saw 19% and 21%, respectively, of their 2016 graduating cohort attain a postsecondary credential within six years of their graduation. DPS saw only 8% of its graduating cohort attain the same. While FRL students attending these two schools accounted for only 3.6% of the total FRL population in the cumulative DPS graduating cohort in 2016, their FRL students accounted for 11% of the total credential attainers. Such a dramatic overperformance indicates that the educational model instilled in DSST shows a far greater return than traditional DPS schooling.

FIGURE 9

Class of 2016 Credential Attainment among Students Eligible for Free and Reduced-price Lunch

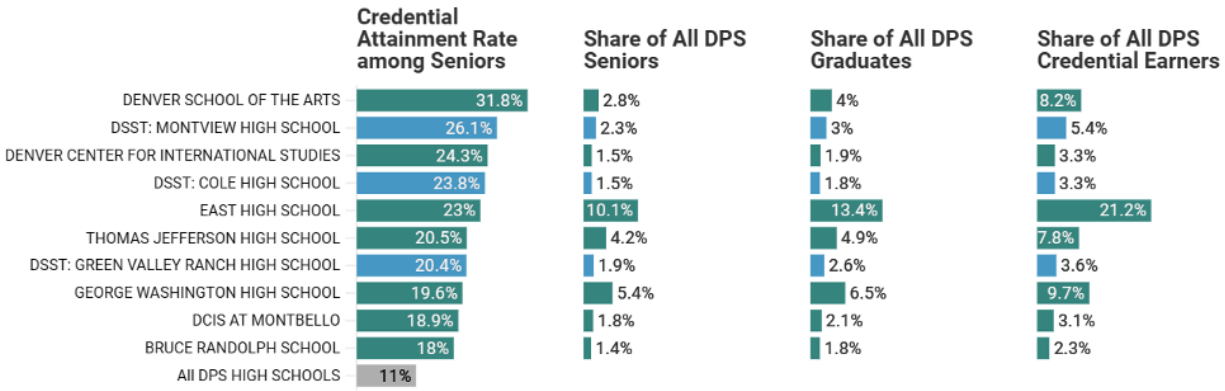


Source: CDE, CDHE Pathways to Prosperity Dashboard

While the six-year credential attainment rate gives the most complete look at the postsecondary outcomes of students, examining the four-year credential rate can provide some useful insights as an early indicator. Three DSST schools rank in the top 10 across all DPS high schools for their share of students receiving a postsecondary credential within four years of graduating in 2018. This includes DSST Montview ranking second, with a 26.1% credential attainment rate, DSST Cole ranking fourth, with a 23.8% credential attainment rate, and DSST Green Valley ranking seventh, with a 20.4% credential attainment rate. These compared to a DPS district-wide average four-year credential attainment rate as a share of the final grad base of 11%.

FIGURE 10

Top 10 DPS High Schools - Class of 2018 4-year Post-secondary Credential Attainment



Source: CDE, CDHE Pathways to Prosperity Dashboard • DSST schools that did not have a 2018 graduating classes are not shown. - Schools such as East, Thomas Jefferson, and George Washington have large shares of credential earners given their larger share of all students.

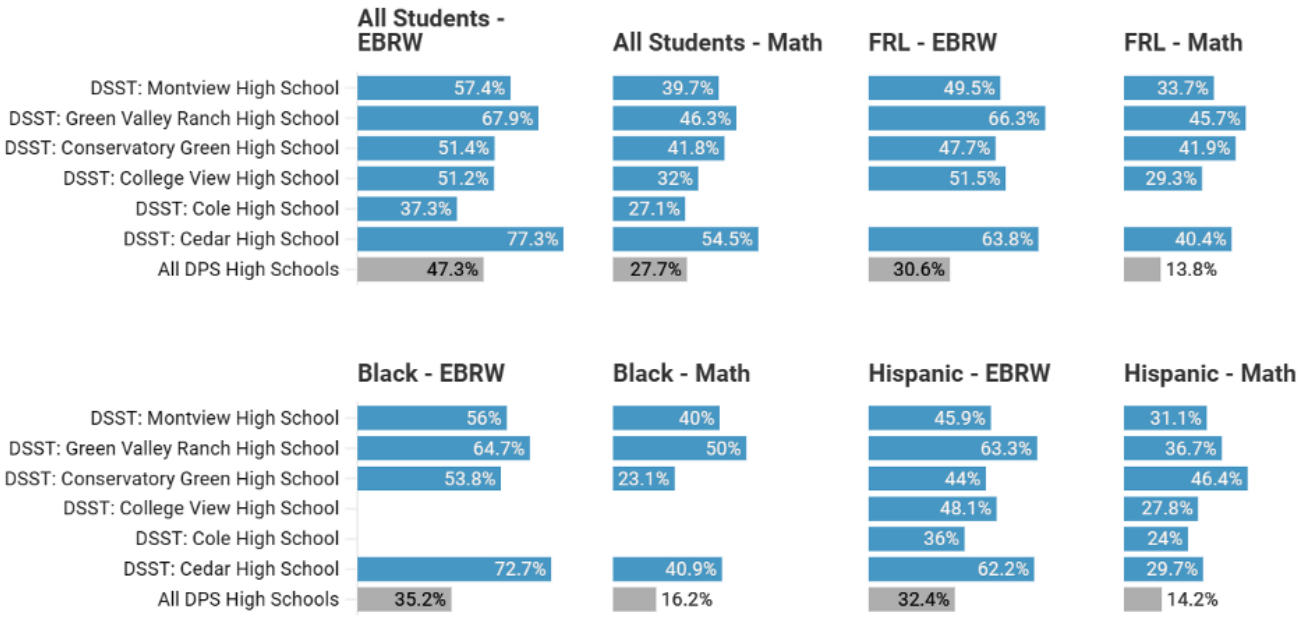
DSST SCHOOL DATA PERFORMANCE

DSST institutions have been recognized many times for their students' academic success. While test scores have changed across institutions since 2020, the 2023 test scores still provide some helpful insights into relative performance.

Ranked against the district average, test scores of 11th graders were generally better than the middle school scores in 2023. Five of the six Denver DSST high schools with an 11th grade class performed better overall than the district average for both evidence-based reading and writing (EBRW) and math. 11th grade test scores for students receiving free or reduced lunch, along with Black and Hispanic students, outperformed the district average at all schools for all test categories (Figure 11).

FIGURE 11

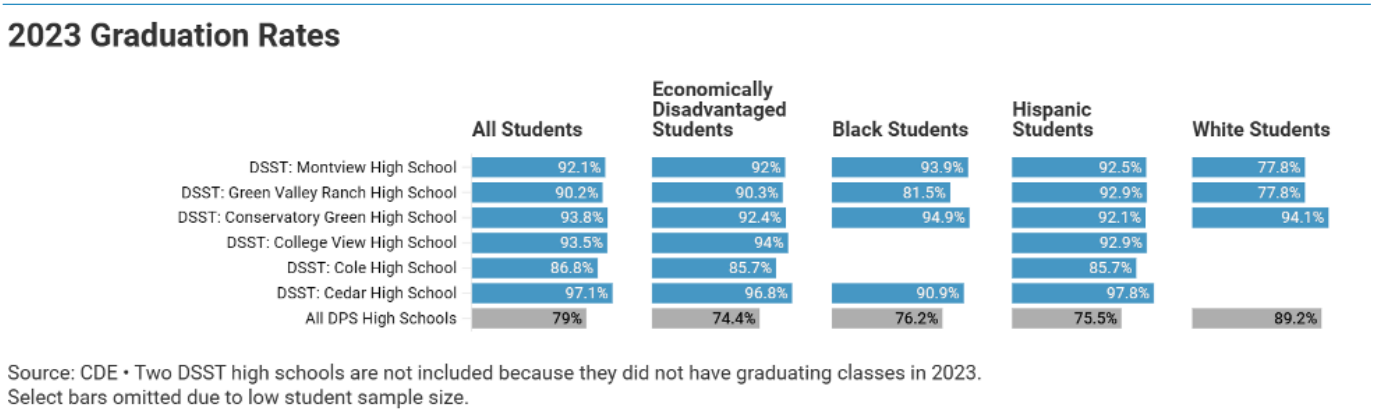
2023 11th-grade Math and Evidence-Based Reading and Writing Proficiency Rates Based on SAT Test Scores



Two DSST high schools are not included because they did not have 11th-grade classes in 2023. Some values are missing due to low student counts.

Graduation rates across DSST high schools show similar outperformance when compared to the district average. Six DSST high schools outperformed the district average 2023 graduation rates of all students, along with those receiving free and reduced lunch, Black or African American, and Hispanic or Latino students (Figure 12).

FIGURE 12

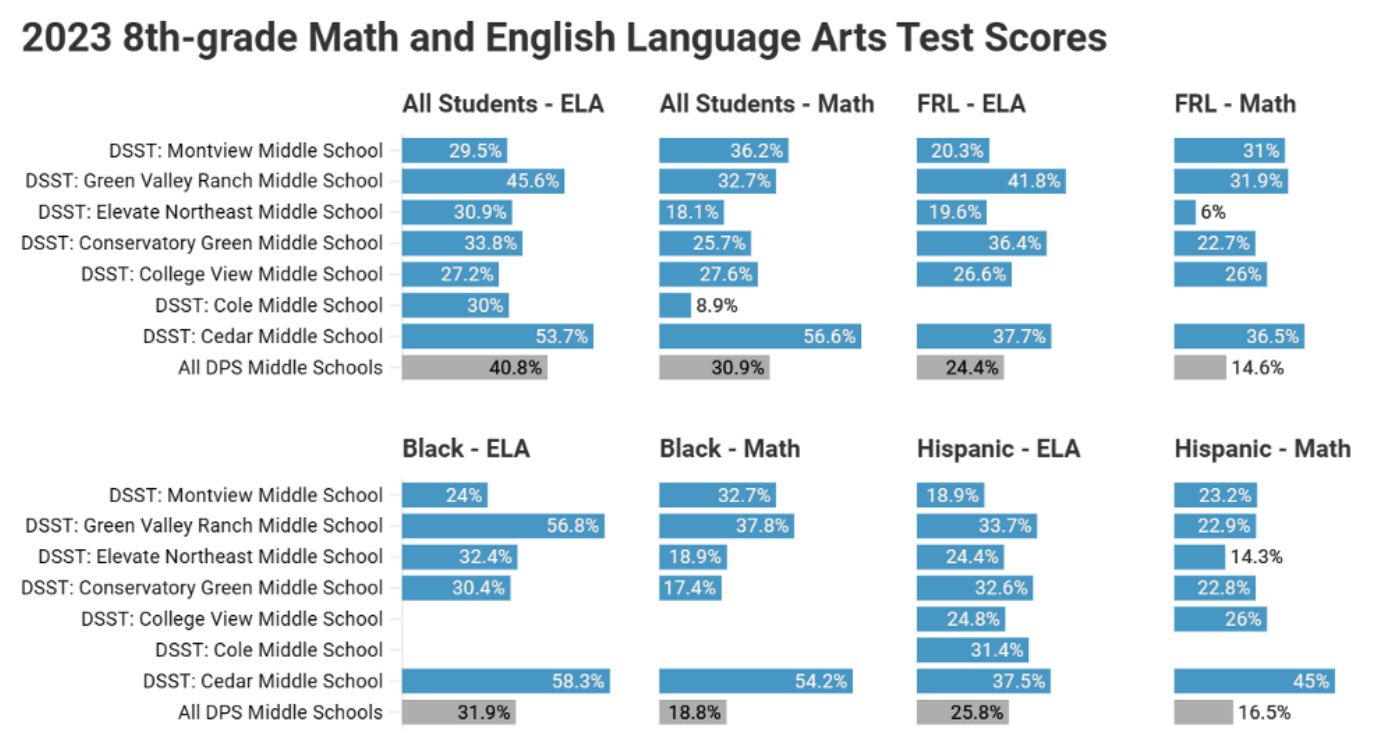


Source: CDE • Two DSST high schools are not included because they did not have graduating classes in 2023.
Select bars omitted due to low student sample size.

Proficiency levels of students exiting middle school show that while the test scores of all students across DSST schools fall both below and above the district average, the scores for higher at-risk subpopulations often outperform. Just two of seven DSST middle schools in Denver have ELA proficiency levels above the district average. Three of the seven have math proficiency levels above the district average.

However, students receiving free or reduced lunch, along with Black and Hispanic students, generally outperform the district average as seen in Figure 13.

FIGURE 13



Some values are missing due to low student count.

BOTTOM LINE

Colorado's K-12 institutions serve as the launch pad for students into their postsecondary education and careers. With more than 70% of jobs demanding postsecondary credential attainment, students increasingly need to pursue further education after graduating high school.

The latest available data on postsecondary outcomes from Denver public high schools shows that DSST schools stand out. While serving a higher share of both lower income students and students of color, DSST consisted of just 4% of students in 2016 but had its graduates make up over 10% of all DPS postsecondary credential attainers by summer 2022. DSST schools accounted for 10.6% of all lower income students who earned a postsecondary credential.

Since 2016, DSST's share of DPS high school students has grown to 12%, expanding from two schools with a graduating class in 2016, to seven by 2023. And with 4 of DSST's high schools appearing in the top 5 for postsecondary enrollment rates in 2023, it is likely that the investment by local communities to expand the DSST model will pay off for students in the long run.

APPENDIX

2024 Denver County School District Class Demographic Comparison									
School/District	Total Students	Percent Free and Reduced	Percent American Indian	Percent Asian	Percent Black	Percent Hispanic	Percent White	Percent Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	Percent 2 or More Races
High Schools									
DSST: Elevate Northeast High School	447	79%	0%	1%	21%	65%	6%	0%	6%
DSST: Conservatory Green High School	562	70%	0%	3%	21%	62%	9%	0%	5%
DSST: Green Valley Ranch High School	565	76%	0%	9%	27%	57%	2%	1%	3%
DSST: Cole High School	308	88%	1%	1%	14%	81%	3%	0%	0%
DSST: Montview High School	566	71%	1%	2%	37%	40%	14%	0%	5%
DSST: Cedar High School	548	55%	0%	3%	24%	34%	34%	0%	5%
DSST: College View High School	543	88%	1%	7%	3%	86%	3%	0%	0%
ALL Denver County 1 High School Students	27,002	63%	1%	3%	13%	56%	22%	1%	4%
Middle Schools									
DSST: Montview Middle School	459	77%	0%	3%	38%	39%	12%	0%	7%
DSST: Green Valley Ranch Middle School	480	79%	0%	10%	25%	54%	5%	2%	4%
DSST: Cedar Middle School	479	53%	0%	4%	18%	29%	41%	0%	8%
DSST: Elevate Northeast Middle School	452	85%	1%	1%	19%	70%	4%	0%	4%
DSST: Conservatory Green Middle School	463	71%	0%	4%	19%	63%	8%	0%	5%
DSST: Cole Middle School	268	91%	1%	1%	17%	74%	4%	2%	2%
DSST: College View Middle School	460	89%	0%	3%	3%	88%	4%	0%	2%
ALL Denver County 1 Middle School Students	18,155	64%	0%	4%	14%	50%	25%	1%	6%

Graduation Rates by Race									
School Name	Anticipated Year of Graduation Cohort	Cohort Size (All Students)	All Students Graduation Rate	Black or African American Cohort	Black or African American Graduation Rate	Hispanic or Latino Cohort	Hispanic or Latino Graduation Rate	White Cohort	White Graduation Rate
DSST: Green Valley Ranch High School	2023	143	90.20%	50 or less	81.50%	85	92.90%	50 or less	77.80%
DSST: Green Valley Ranch High School	2022	127	97.60%	50 or less	>= 98%	75	96.00%	50 or less	>= 98%
DSST: Green Valley Ranch High School	2021	124	97.60%	50 or less	>= 98%	70	95.70%	50 or less	>= 98%
DSST: Green Valley Ranch High School	2020	128	91.40%	50 or less	89.70%	68	91.20%	50 or less	>= 98%

School Name	Anticipated Year of Graduation Cohort	Cohort Size (All Students)	All Students Graduation Rate	Black or African American Cohort	Black or African American Graduation Rate	Hispanic or Latino Cohort	Hispanic or Latino Graduation Rate	White Cohort	White Graduation Rate
DSST: Montview High School	2023	126	92.10%	50 or less	93.90%	53	92.50%	50 or less	77.80%
DSST: Montview High School	2022	135	94.80%	50 or less	94.60%	50 or less	91.30%	50 or less	96.60%
DSST: Montview High School	2021	116	96.60%	50 or less	96.90%	50 or less	95.50%	50 or less	96.30%
DSST: Montview High School	2020	139	97.10%	50 or less	>= 98%	50 or less	94.00%	50 or less	>= 98%
Denver County 1	2023	6,624	79.00%	895	76.20%	3,730	75.50%	1,439	89.20%

School Name	Anticipated Year of Graduation Cohort	Cohort Size (All Students)	All Students Graduation Rate	Black or African American Cohort	Black or African American Graduation Rate	Hispanic or Latino Cohort	Hispanic or Latino Graduation Rate	White Cohort	White Graduation Rate
Denver County 1	2022	6,577	80.80%	837	77.80%	3,772	78.80%	1,444	87.50%
Denver County 1	2021	6,500	80.70%	866	78.80%	3,665	78.20%	1,414	87.80%
Denver County 1	2020	6,207	82.00%	846	79.20%	3,517	80.60%	1,328	86.90%

Source: CDE

Share of 11th Grade Free and Reduced Lunch Students Who Met or Exceeded Proficiency Expectations			
School/District	Year	Evidence Based Reading & Writing (EBRW)	Math
DSST: Montview	2023	49.5%	33.7%
DSST: Green Valley	2023	66.3%	45.7%
Denver Public Schools	2023	30.6%	13.8%

Source: CDE

Share of 11th Grade Students Who Met or Exceeded Proficiency Expectations Among Racial Groups				
School/District	Year	Race	Evidence Based Reading & Writing (EBRW)	Math
DSST: Montview	2023	Black or African American	56%	40%
DSST: Green Valley	2023	Black or African American	64.7%	50%
Denver Public Schools	2023	Black or African American	35.2%	16.2%
DSST: Montview	2023	Hispanic	45.9%	31.1%
DSST: Green Valley	2023	Hispanic	63.3%	36.7%
Denver Public Schools	2023	Hispanic	32.4%	14.2%

Source: CDE

All Students Credential Attainment Rates								
School/District	Year	# in Graduating Class	Postsecondary enrollment rate	# of students enrolled in postsecondary in each cohort	4-year credential attainment rate	4-year credential attainment #	6-year credential attainment rate	6-year credential attainment #
DSST: Montview	2013	93	84.20%	78	31.3%	24	63.8%	50
DSST: Montview	2014	89	86.80%	77	25.3%	19	57.0%	44
DSST: Montview	2015	91	83.90%	76	23.1%	18	59.0%	45
DSST: Montview	2016	112	87.00%	97	38.3%	37	68.1%	66
DSST: Montview	2017	102	82.40%	84	39.3%	33		
DSST: Montview	2018	133	83.80%	111	33.9%	38		
DSST: Montview	2019	120	79.70%	96				
DSST: Montview	2020	138	71.30%	98				
DSST: Montview	2021	121	67.20%	81				
DSST: Green Valley	2015	89	84.10%	75	20.3%	15	60.9%	46
DSST: Green Valley	2016	91	81.80%	74	22.2%	16	43.1%	32
DSST: Green Valley	2017	108	76.50%	83	32.1%	27		
DSST: Green Valley	2018	113	74.80%	85	29.1%	25		
DSST: Green Valley	2019	115	72.20%	83				
DSST: Green Valley	2020	124	59.30%	74				
DSST: Green Valley	2021	127	44%	56				
Denver Public Schools	2013	4,490	45.00%	2,021	22.1%	447	42.5%	859

School/District	Year	# in Graduating Class	Postsecondary enrollment rate	# of students enrolled in postsecondary in each cohort	4-year credential attainment rate	4-year credential attainment #	6-year credential attainment rate	6-year credential attainment #
Denver Public Schools	2014	4,376	46.80%	2,048	27.9%	571	48.9%	1001
Denver Public Schools	2015	4,514	48.10%	2,171	27.8%	604	50.8%	1103
Denver Public Schools	2016	4,955	50.20%	2,487	30.4%	756	50.0%	1244
Denver Public Schools	2017	5,124	53.30%	2,731	28.8%	787		
Denver Public Schools	2018	5,265	52.40%	2,759	29.6%	817		
Denver Public Schools	2019	5,654	52.20%	2,951				
Denver Public Schools	2020	5,732	45.40%	2,602				
Denver Public Schools	2021	5,880	43.70%	2,570				

Source: CDHE Pathways to Prosperity Dashboard

CDHE Pathways to Prosperity Dashboard - All credential attainment rates prior to 2016 include postsecondary graduates through the spring term. Credential attainment rates for the 2016 class and later, include postsecondary graduates through the summer term.

FRL Only Students Credential Attainment Rates								
		# of FRL Students in Graduating Class	Postsecondary enrollment rate	# of students enrolled in postsecondary in each cohort	4-year credential attainment rate	4-year credential attainment #	6-year credential attainment rate	6-year credential attainment #
School/ District	**Year**							
DSST: Montview	2013	42	87.8%	37.0	33.3%	12	66.7%	25
DSST: Montview	2014	43	85.7%	36.7	16.7%	6	56.7%	21
DSST: Montview	2015	48	83.7%	40.0	22.0%	9	58.5%	23
DSST: Montview	2016	59	84.8%	50.3	25.6%	13	59.0%	30
DSST: Montview	2017	53	82.4%	43.5	31.0%	13		
DSST: Montview	2018	70	73.4%	51.7	19.1%	10		
DSST: Montview	2019	66	76.4%	50.4				
DSST: Montview	2020	84	75.4%	63.5				
DSST: Montview	2021	81	71.0%	57.4				
DSST: Green Valley	2015	62	84.7%	52	18.0%	9	56.0%	29
DSST: Green Valley	2016	64	78.9%	50	24.4%	12	44.4%	22
DSST: Green Valley	2017	77	72.9%	56	22.9%	13		
DSST: Green Valley	2018	82	71.6%	59	32.1%	19		
DSST: Green Valley	2019	86	70.6%	61				
DSST: Green Valley	2020	91	55.0%	50				
DSST: Green Valley	2021	89	56.9%	51				
Denver Public Schools	2013	3,258	38.6%	1,258	17.3%	218	35.9%	451
Denver Public Schools	2014	3,173	40.0%	1,269	20.5%	260	39.5%	501
Denver Public Schools	2015	3,175	41.3%	1,311	21.6%	283	43.4%	569

Denver Public Schools	2016	3,424	44.5%	1,524	23.0%	350	40.6%	619
Denver Public Schools	2017	3,474	49.7%	1,727	22.3%	385		
Denver Public Schools	2018	3,528	47.1%	1,661	22.5%	374		
Denver Public Schools	2019	3,675	47.3%	1,738				
Denver Public Schools	2020	3,680	39.4%	1,450				
Denver Public Schools	2021	3,663	38.1%	1,396				

Source: CDHE Pathways to Prosperity Dashboard - All credential attainment rates prior to 2016 include postsecondary graduates through the spring term. Credential attainment rates for the 2016 class and later, include postsecondary graduates through the summer term.

Denver Public Schools 2016 Cohort Actual				
DPS Actual	# of Students	Education Level	Annual Median Wage	1-Year Earnings
Did Not Graduate High School	1,625	No High School Diploma	$37,460	$60,881,490
Graduated High School but did not Enroll in College	1,658	High School Diploma Only	$45,760	$75,880,169
College Enrollees who did not Receive a Credential	259	Some College but no Degree	$47,258	$13,438,668
Received a Credential Within 6-Years from 2-Year Institution	577	2-Year Degree	$51,869	$40,946,091
Received a Credential Within 6-Years from 4-Year Institution	836	4-Year Degree	$71,003	$39,496,807
Total Class	4,955			$230,643,225

Denver Public Schools 2016 Cohort if They Performed at DSST Average Rates				
DPS Actual	**# of Students**	**Education Level**	**Annual Median Wage**	**1-Year Earnings**
Did Not Graduate High School	810	No High School Diploma	$37,460	$30,347,938
Graduated High School but did not Enroll in College	647	High School Diploma Only	$45,760	$29,588,314
College Enrollees who did not Receive a Credential	150	Some College but no Degree	$47,258	$7,768,290
Received a Credential Within 6-Years from 2-Year Institution	1,795	2-Year Degree	$51,869	$127,469,195
Received a Credential Within 6-Years from 4-Year Institution	1,553	4-Year Degree	$71,003	$73,402,417
Total Class	**4,955**			**$268,576,154**

SOURCES

i. https://www.dsstpublicschools.org/about-us, About Us (dsstpublicschools.org)

ii. https://cdhe.colorado.gov/data-and-research/tools/data-tools/pathways-to-prosperity-postsecondary-access-and-success-for

iii. COE - Annual Earnings by Educational Attainment