



# Student Mobility in K-12 Online Schools

Submitted to:  
**State Board of Education**  
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By:  
**Office of Online and Blended Learning**

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## Table of Contents

|                                                                                                                                                                    |    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Introduction                                                                                                                                                       | 3  |
| Background and Context<br>Data Utilized for Analysis                                                                                                               |    |
| Student Exit Codes                                                                                                                                                 | 8  |
| Year to Year Comparison of Student Withdrawals, Continuations, and Completions<br>Statewide Student Withdrawals<br>Statewide Student Continuations and Completions |    |
| Student Withdrawals by Time after October Count                                                                                                                    | 13 |
| Withdrawal by Time of Year                                                                                                                                         |    |
| Student Withdrawals by School                                                                                                                                      | 15 |
| Withdrawals by Online School Type<br>Withdrawals by School                                                                                                         |    |
| Student Withdrawals, Continuation and Completion by Grade Level                                                                                                    | 22 |
| Continuations and Completions by Grade Level<br>Grade Reassignment and Retention Coding                                                                            |    |
| Enrollments after Student October Count                                                                                                                            | 25 |
| Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic                                                                                                                                    |    |
| Conclusion                                                                                                                                                         | 30 |



## Introduction

Senate Bill 19-129, concerning the regulation of online schools, calls for the Colorado Department of Education's Office of Online and Blended Learning to produce an annual report on the number of students who withdraw from Colorado K-12 online schools after the pupil enrollment count date.

This report is required to include the dates on which students withdrew from enrollment in a Colorado online school, the grade level at which the students were enrolled at the beginning of the school year, the grade levels at which the students were enrolled when the students transferred, and information on whether the students enrolled in another public or private school or home-based education (home school) setting or graduated or completed high school within the same year. This report includes information and data for the 2020-2021 school year. Unfortunately, this report's release was delayed by a year due to complexities of managing increased workload in the Office through the pandemic and turnover in technical positions needed to pull and analyze the transactional data for the report. A report analyzing 2021-22 mobility data is scheduled to be published by the end of summer 2023 and future reports will be published in the late spring of following years.

## Background and Context

In the 2020-2021 school year, there were 48 online schools operating in Colorado serving grades K-12. Of the 48 schools, 36 were multi-district online schools (MDOL). A multi-district online school can enroll students from across the state who reside outside of the district that authorizes the school. The remaining 12 schools were single-district online schools (SDOL).

Pursuant to statute, MDOLs in Colorado can be authorized by an individual school district, a Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES), a group of school districts, or the state Charter School Institute (CSI). In the 2020-2021 school year, 18 school districts and two BOCES authorized the 36 MDOLs. The 12 SDOLs were authorized by 12 separate school districts. Table 1 below details for each authorizer the number of online schools it authorizes, total student enrollment for the district or BOCES, and the number and percentage of students enrolled in online schools within that district or BOCES as of the pupil enrollment count date.

**TABLE 1: 2020-2021 Online School Student Enrollment Count as of the Pupil Enrollment Count Date**

| Authorizer                 | Online Schools (#) | District P-12 Enrollment | Students Enrolled in Online School | Students in Online (%) |
|----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Academy 20                 | 3                  | 25,711                   | 963                                | 3.7%                   |
| Adams 12 Five Star Schools | 1                  | 36,654                   | 392                                | 1.1%                   |
| Alamosa RE-11J             | 1                  | 2,176                    | 556                                | 25.6%                  |
| Boulder Valley Re 2        | 1                  | 29,240                   | 954                                | 3.3%                   |
| Branson Reorganized 82     | 1                  | 594                      | 522                                | 87.9%                  |
| Byers 32J                  | 8                  | 5,359                    | 4,864                              | 90.8%                  |
| Center 26 JT               | 1                  | 595                      | 13                                 | 2.2%                   |
| Cherry Creek 5             | 1                  | 54,167                   | 133                                | 0.2%                   |
| Colorado Springs 11        | 1                  | 23,885                   | 308                                | 1.3%                   |



| Authorizer                   | Online Schools (#) | District P-12 Enrollment | Students Enrolled in Online School | Students in Online (%) |
|------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Denver County 1              | 1                  | 89,061                   | 263                                | 0.3%                   |
| District 49                  | 3                  | 23,984                   | 5,942                              | 24.8%                  |
| Douglas County Re 1          | 3                  | 62,979                   | 1,135                              | 1.8%                   |
| Durango 9-R                  | 1                  | 6,931                    | 2,340                              | 33.8%                  |
| Eagle County RE 50           | 1                  | 6,699                    | 71                                 | 1.1%                   |
| Education reEnvisioned BOCES | 4                  | 5,123                    | 4,923                              | 96.1%                  |
| Hanover 28                   | 1                  | 263                      | 6                                  | 2.3%                   |
| Holyoke Re-1J                | 1                  | 584                      | 31                                 | 5.3%                   |
| Jefferson County R-1         | 1                  | 80,088                   | 374                                | 0.5%                   |
| Julesburg Re-1               | 1                  | 1,021                    | 777                                | 76.1%                  |
| Las Animas RE-1              | 2                  | 2,305                    | 1,869                              | 81.1%                  |
| Mapleton 1                   | 1                  | 9,140                    | 2,532                              | 27.7%                  |
| Mesa County Valley 51        | 1                  | 21,081                   | 311                                | 1.5%                   |
| Monte Vista C-8              | 1                  | 1,164                    | 117                                | 10.1%                  |
| Montrose County RE-1J        | 1                  | 5,836                    | 204                                | 3.5%                   |
| Peyton 23 JT                 | 1                  | 611                      | 25                                 | 4.1%                   |
| Poudre R-1                   | 1                  | 29,418                   | 251                                | 0.9%                   |
| Pueblo City 60               | 1                  | 15,205                   | 269                                | 1.8%                   |
| Pueblo County 70             | 1                  | 10,320                   | 230                                | 2.2%                   |
| San Juan BOCES               | 1                  | 74                       | 74                                 | 100.0%                 |
| St. Vrain Valley RE1J        | 1                  | 31,312                   | 107                                | 0.3%                   |
| Windsor RE-4                 | 1                  | 7,477                    | 618                                | 8.3%                   |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                 | <b>48</b>          | <b>589,057</b>           | <b>31,174</b>                      |                        |

In the year 2020-21, the total student enrollment count for online schools was 31,174 and total student enrollment count for students enrolled in both online schools and programs was 32,034. Statewide, the percentage of students enrolled in online schools and programs represents 3.6 percent of all Colorado public school students. This report does not include data on students enrolled in online programs<sup>1</sup> and only looks at



data for students enrolled in multi-district and single-district online schools. It is important to note that the number of student records analyzed for this report may differ from student enrollment totals for the 2020-21 school year. This is due to school districts being able to provide additional information regarding student enrollment during an October count window.

The student enrollment count for online schools and programs in 2020-21 increased significantly from the previous school year. There was an increase in enrollment of 9,586 more students or 43 percent more students than the 2019-20 school year. The onset of the 2020-21 school year coincided with the ongoing threat of COVID-19 as a public health issue. Consequently, the surge in student enrollment in online schools and programs may largely be attributed to the profound impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Table 2 below displays the online school type, grades served, and enrollment numbers for each school as reported on the Student October Count data collection for the 2020-2021 school year.

**TABLE 2: 2020-2021 Online School Student Enrollment Count**

| Authorizer                 | Online School                            | School Type            | Grades Served | Student K-12 Enrollment |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| Academy 20                 | Journey K8                               | Multi-District         | K-8           | 141                     |
| Academy 20                 | TCA College Pathways                     | Multi-District Charter | 7-12          | 512                     |
| Academy 20                 | Village High School                      | Multi-District         | 9-12          | 310                     |
| Adams 12 Five Star Schools | Pathways Future Center                   | Single District        | 9-12          | 392                     |
| Alamosa RE-11J             | Alamosa Online                           | Single District        | K-12          | 556                     |
| Boulder Valley Re 2        | Boulder Universal                        | Multi-District         | K-12          | 954                     |
| Branson Reorganized 82     | Branson School Online                    | Multi-District         | K-12          | 522                     |
| Byers 32J                  | Astravo Academy High School              | Multi-District Charter | 9-12          | 525                     |
| Byers 32J                  | Astravo Academy Middle School            | Multi-District Charter | 6-8           | 551                     |
| Byers 32J                  | Astravo Online Academy Elementary School | Multi-District Charter | K-5           | 805                     |
| Byers 32J                  | Astravo Online Academy High School       | Multi-District Charter | 9-12          | 1,332                   |
| Byers 32J                  | Astravo Online Academy Middle School     | Multi-District Charter | 6-8           | 756                     |

<sup>1</sup>Per C.R.S. 22-30.7-102(9), an “online program” is defined as a full-time education program authorized pursuant to Title 22 of the Colorado Revised Statutes (C.R.S.) that delivers a sequential program of synchronous or asynchronous instruction, directed by a teacher primarily through online digital learning strategies that provide students choice over time, place, and path, and teacher-guided modality, of learning.



| Authorizer                   | Online School                                  | School Type            | Grades Served | Student K-12 Enrollment |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| Byers 32J                    | Colorado Virtual Academy                       | Multi-District Charter | K-6           | 447                     |
| Byers 32J                    | Colorado Virtual Academy High School           | Multi-District Charter | 9-12          | 370                     |
| Byers 32J                    | Colorado Virtual Academy Middle School         | Multi-District Charter | 7-8           | 78                      |
| Center 26 JT                 | Center Virtual Academy                         | Single District        | 9-12          | n<16                    |
| Cherry Creek 5               | Cherry Creek Elevation                         | Single District        | 9-12          | 133                     |
| Colorado Springs 11          | Achieve Online                                 | Multi-District         | 6-12          | 308                     |
| Denver County 1              | Denver Online High School                      | Multi-District         | 9-12          | 263                     |
| District 49                  | GOAL Academy                                   | Multi-District Charter | 9-12          | 5,308                   |
| District 49                  | Pikes Peak Early College                       | Multi-District         | 9-12          | 162                     |
| District 49                  | Springs Studio for Academic Excellence         | Multi-District         | K-12          | 472                     |
| Douglas County Re 1          | eDCSD                                          | Single District        | 9-12          | 45                      |
| Douglas County Re 1          | HOPE Online Learning Academy High School       | Multi-District Charter | K-5           | 651                     |
| Douglas County Re 1          | HOPE Online Learning Academy Middle School     | Multi-District Charter | 6-8           | 439                     |
| Durango 9-R                  | Colorado Connections Academy @ Durango         | Multi-District         | K-12          | 2,340                   |
| Eagle County RE 50           | World Academy                                  | Single District        | K-12          | 71                      |
| Education reEnvisioned BOCES | Colorado Preparatory Academy Elementary School | Multi-District         | K-5           | 2,280                   |
| Education reEnvisioned BOCES | Colorado Preparatory Academy High School       | Multi-District         | 9-12          | 895                     |
| Education reEnvisioned BOCES | Colorado Preparatory Academy Middle School     | Multi-District         | 6-8           | 1,178                   |
| Education reEnvisioned BOCES | Pikes Peak Online School                       | Multi-District         | 9-12          | 570                     |
| Hanover 28                   | Hanover Online Academy                         | Multi-District         | 6-12          | n<16                    |
| Holyoke Re-1J                | Holyoke Alternative School                     | Single District        | 7-12          | 31                      |
| Jefferson County R-1         | Jeffco Virtual Academy                         | Multi-District         | 6-12          | 374                     |



| Authorizer                               | Online School                             | School Type     | Grades Served | Student K-12 Enrollment |
|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| Julesburg Re-1                           | Destinations Career Academy of Colorado   | Multi-District  | 6-12          | 777                     |
| Las Animas RE-1                          | AIM Global                                | Multi-District  | 6-12          | 1,701                   |
| Las Animas RE-1                          | Immersion Schools Science Technology Arts | Multi-District  | 6-12          | 168                     |
| Mapleton 1                               | Colorado Connections Academy              | Multi-District  | K-12          | 2,532                   |
| Mesa County Valley 51                    | Grand River Academy                       | Single District | K-12          | 311                     |
| Monte Vista C-8                          | Monte Vista On-Line Academy               | Multi-District  | 4-12          | 117                     |
| Montrose County RE-1J                    | Peak Virtual Academy                      | Single District | K-12          | 204                     |
| Peyton 23 JT                             | Peyton Online Academy                     | Multi-District  | 7-12          | 25                      |
| Poudre R-1                               | PSD Global Academy                        | Multi-District  | K-12          | 251                     |
| Pueblo City 60                           | Paragon Learning Center                   | Single District | 9-12          | 269                     |
| Pueblo County 70                         | 70 Online                                 | Multi-District  | K-12          | 230                     |
| San Juan BOCES                           | Southwest Colorado eSchool                | Multi-District  | 6-12          | 74                      |
| St Vrain Valley RE1J                     | St. Vrain Global Online Academy           | Single District | 9-12          | 107                     |
| Windsor RE-4                             | Inspire4 K-12 Online School               | Single District | K-12          | 618                     |
| 2020-21 ONLINE SCHOOL STUDENT ENROLLMENT |                                           |                 | TOTAL         | 31,174                  |

## Data Utilized for Analysis

The analysis in this report utilizes the date on which a student is coded as withdrawing from enrollment in an online school, the grade level the student was in at the time of enrollment in the online school, and the grade level the student was in at the time of withdrawal. This report also provides information, to the extent known, about whether the student enrolled in another school within the same school year or graduated or completed high school. It is important to note that the report looks at data related to how students are coded, and totals may vary from the published number of students reported in the Student October Pupil Count (October Count) as described below.

The [Student October Pupil Count \(October Count\)](#) snapshot data collection captures annual student enrollment data and is used as a method for distributing school finances across the state. A snapshot data collection represents points in time for data submissions. The October Count data collection is based on a one-day membership count in which school districts and other Local Education Agencies (LEAs), such as BOCES or the



Colorado Charter School Institute (CSI), report all students who are actively enrolled and attending classes on the pupil enrollment count date. The pupil enrollment count date is October 1 of each year, unless that date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or major religious holiday. If the pupil enrollment count date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or major religious holiday, the pupil enrollment count date will be the following weekday. While the submission should only include those students who meet the membership and scheduling requirements as of the pupil enrollment count day, the actual submission process begins in September and closes mid-November. Data from the October Count snapshot data collection serves as the statistical foundation for this report.

The other snapshot data collection utilized for this report is the [Student End of Year](#) data collection. The Student End of Year snapshot collects student enrollment updates throughout the school year. One of the data elements collected in the Student End of Year snapshot is information about the way a student enrolls and withdraws from a school. The data collected from the Student End of Year data collection is certified in the subsequent school year. Because the collection is certified during the subsequent school year, the data analyzed in this report is from the 2020-2021 school year, which was certified in fall of 2021 and finalized in early 2022.

## Student Exit Codes

When a student leaves a school, the state collects information from schools and local education agencies through an ongoing process known as the “Student Interchange.” The data from [Student Interchange](#) is then formally archived for the year through the Student End of Year snapshot data collection mentioned in the above section of this report. When a student leaves a school, the school is responsible for reporting both an exit date and an indicator of the reason the student withdrew from the school (i.e., an “exit type”). Table 3 below shows the exit types and number of students associated with each exit type who left an online school during the 2020-21 school year.

In addition to collecting information about whether and why a student withdraws from school, the Student End of Year Data Collection also collects information about whether students continue to be enrolled in a school or complete school. For purposes of this report, the codes that are assigned to students when they continue in the school or complete are grouped together as “Continued or Completed” as shown in Table 3 below.

Some examples of “Continued Enrollment” codes are:

- Students returning after an extended absence (i.e., 6-week absence but now Returned (exit code 45) or Extended Absence-10+consecutive day (exit code 25);
- Students participating in a postsecondary program such as a Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH school) or Accelerating Students through Concurrent Enrollment (ASCENT) program (exit code 24); or
- Students experiencing a grade re-assignment during the school year (exit code 10).

For students who have completed the school year with an online school and did not exit during the school year, the student is coded with a “00” to signify a completed year. In addition, students who have completed graduation requirements and are issued a diploma, have completed a High School Equivalency Diploma (HSED), or have completed high school without receiving a diploma are coded with the appropriate code as well. These codes are also included in the “Continued or Completed” group.





TABLE 3: Number of Records Based on Exit Codes for 2020-21 School Year

| Exit Code | Code Description                                          | Grouping               | Number of Online Student Records |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 00        | Completed/ Did Not Exit School Year                       | Continued or Completed | 21,554                           |
| 01        | Reached Maximum Age                                       | Withdrew               | n<16                             |
| 02        | Death                                                     | Withdrew               | n<16                             |
| 05        | Other School: Out of Country                              | Withdrew               | 21                               |
| 06        | Exited to Unknown Educational Setting                     | Withdrew               | 347                              |
| 10        | Grade Reassignment in Same School*                        | Continued or Completed | 238                              |
| 11        | Other School: In District                                 | Withdrew               | 550                              |
| 12        | Transfer to In-district Detention Center                  | Withdrew               | n<16                             |
| 13        | Other School: Other LEA                                   | Withdrew               | 1548                             |
| 14        | Other School: Other State                                 | Withdrew               | 411                              |
| 15        | Other School: Non-Public                                  | Withdrew               | 256                              |
| 16        | Transfer to Home-Based Education (Home school)            | Withdrew               | 956                              |
| 18        | Transfer to Career and Technical Education (Vocational)   | Withdrew               | n<16                             |
| 19        | Transfer to Facility School/State Operated Program        | Withdrew               | n<16                             |
| 21        | Transfer to Corrections Facility                          | Withdrew               | n<16                             |
| 22        | Exited after Graduated in a Prior Year                    | Withdrew               | n<16                             |
| 23        | Graduated K-12 but did not Complete P-Tech/ASCENT Program | Continued or Completed | n<16                             |
| 24        | Completed P-Tech/ASCENT Program                           | Continued or Completed | 25                               |
| 25        | Extended Absences – 10+ Consecutive Days                  | Withdrew               | 23                               |
| 26        | Transfer to Out-of-District Detention Center              | Withdrew               | n<16                             |
| 30        | Illness/Injury                                            | Withdrew               | n<16                             |
| 40        | Dropped Out (6-12)                                        | Withdrew               | 1171                             |
| 45        | 6 Week Absence but now Returned*                          | Continued or Completed | 39                               |
| 70        | Transfer to HSED Program (Out-of-District)                | Withdrew               | 151                              |
| 90        | Graduated with Diploma                                    | Continued or Completed | 3,325                            |



| Exit Code | Code Description                         | Grouping               | Number of Online Student Records |
|-----------|------------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 92        | Completed (non-Diploma Certificate)      | Completed              | n<16                             |
| 93        | Completed HSED Program (In-District)     | Continued or Completed | n<16                             |
| 94        | Completed HSED Program (Out-of-District) | Continued or Completed | 55                               |
| TOTAL     |                                          |                        | 30,754                           |

\*Student records in the Continued or Completed grouping with an exit code of 10 or 45 are assigned an additional exit code that would reflect the end of year (EOY) status for the student record.

## Year to Year Comparison of Student Withdrawals, Continuations, and Completions

In the 2020-2021 school year, students coded as withdrawing from online schools after the October Count totaled 5,503 or 17.9 percent of the total number of online students whose data were reviewed for this purpose. This is an increase from the 16.8 percent of students coded as withdrawing from online schools after the October Count in the prior year.<sup>2</sup> Although percentages are higher this year, the three-year trend shows a decline in withdrawals from 21.1% of online students in 2017-18 to 17.9% in 2020-21.

TABLE 4: Statewide Online Student Completion and Withdrawal Based on Grouping by School Year

| School Year | Continued or Completed | Percentage | Withdrew | Percentage | Grand Total |
|-------------|------------------------|------------|----------|------------|-------------|
| 2020-21     | 25,251                 | 82.10%     | 5,503    | 17.90%     | 30,754      |
| 2019-20     | 18,163                 | 83.20%     | 3,655    | 16.80%     | 21,818      |
| 2018-19     | 16,669                 | 80.90%     | 3,928    | 19.10%     | 20,597      |
| 2017-18     | 15,248                 | 78.9%      | 4,086    | 21.1%      | 19,334      |

## Statewide Student Withdrawals

Since the release of the first version of this report, the top reason for withdrawal from an online school continues to be transferring to a school in another district. Of the 5,503 students coded as withdrawing from an online school statewide 1,548 students or 5.0 percent of all online school students were coded as transferring to a school in a different school district. Online school enrollment totals show that most online school students attend a multi-district online school. Because such a school can enroll students from outside of the geographic district that authorizes the school, this helps explain the high incidence of students transferring to a school in “another school district.”

The second most frequently reported reason that students exited online schools in 2020-2021 was that the students were coded as dropping out of school. 1,171 students or 3.8 percent of all online school students for the 2020-2021 school year were reported with a dropout exit code. The number of students coded with a dropout exit code includes students who are enrolled in school at any time during the school year but left the

<sup>2</sup> Prior reports can be found on the [Online Learning in Colorado – Research and Reports](#) page of the CDE website.



school for any reason other than one of the exclusionary conditions listed below. Students who were enrolled in the previous school year, did not meet one of the following exclusionary conditions, and did not return to school prior to the end of the school year are also coded with a dropout exit code.

Exclusionary conditions (for which students are not counted as a dropout) include:

- Transfers (with official documentation) to another public-school district, private school, home based education program or other state- or district-approved educational program;
- Temporary absence due to suspension or expulsion; or
- Serious illness or death and student does not complete their education.

It is important to note that the number or percentage of students coded with a dropout exit code in this report is not the same as the state dropout rate - nor should it be viewed as the dropout rate for each online school. The dropout rate is calculated by dividing the number of dropouts by a membership base which includes all students who were in membership any time during the year. For more information about how the dropout rate is calculated, please visit: <https://www.cde.state.co.us/cdereval/dropoutcurrentfaq>.

The third most frequently reported reason that students exited online schools in 2020-2021 was to transfer to home-based education (also referred to as home school). 956 students or 3.1 percent of all online school students were coded as transferring to a non-public home-based education setting. The numbers in the 2020-2021 school year demonstrate an increase from the previous school year when 2.7 percent of students in online schools were coded as withdrawing to transfer to home schooling. For a student to transfer to non-public home-based education, the student's parent or guardian must submit a notification of intent to home school to a school district and is responsible for overseeing the education of the student.

Combined, students who transferred to a school in another district, dropped out of school or transferred to a home-based education account for 3,675 students or 11.9 percent of all online school students reported as being enrolled during the October Count. Table 5 below contains information about the other reasons for withdrawal in the 2020-2021 school year.

Table 6 includes a comparison by year for the top five exit code reasons.

**TABLE 5: 2020-2021 Statewide Withdrawal Grouping of Student Count by Exit Code**

| Exit Code | Code Description                               | Student Count | Percentage of Students |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------|---------------|------------------------|
| 13        | Other School: Other LEA                        | 1,548         | 5.0%                   |
| 40        | Dropped Out (6-12)                             | 1,171         | 3.8%                   |
| 16        | Transfer to Home-Based Education (Home school) | 956           | 3.1%                   |
| 11        | Other School: In District                      | 550           | 1.8%                   |
| 14        | Other School: Other State                      | 411           | 1.3%                   |
| 06        | Exited to Unknown Educational Setting          | 347           | 1.1%                   |
| 15        | Other School: Non-Public                       | 256           | 0.8%                   |
| 70        | Transfer to HSED Program (Out-of-District)     | 151           | 0.5%                   |



| Exit Code | Code Description                         | Student Count | Percentage of Students |
|-----------|------------------------------------------|---------------|------------------------|
| 25        | Extended Absences – 10+ Consecutive Days | 23            | 0.1%                   |
|           | Other (01,02,12, 18,19, 21,22,26,30)     | 90            | 0.2%                   |
|           | <b>TOTAL</b>                             | <b>5,503</b>  | <b>17.9%</b>           |

TABLE 6: Statewide Withdrawal Student Count-Top Five Exit Codes by Year

| Exit Code | Code Description                               | 2017-18 Student Count | 2017-18 Percent of Online | 2018-19 Student Count | 2018-19 Percent of Online | 2019-20 Student Count | 2019-20 Percent of Online | 2020-21 Student Count | 2020-21 Percent of Online |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| 13        | Other School: Other LEA                        | 1,207                 | 6.2%                      | 1,115                 | 5.4%                      | 1,079                 | 5.0%                      | 1,548                 | 5.0%                      |
| 40        | Dropped Out (Grades 7-12)                      | 1,304                 | 6.7%                      | 1,074                 | 5.2%                      | 1,004                 | 4.6%                      | 1,171                 | 3.8%                      |
| 16        | Transfer to Home-Based Education (Home school) | 600                   | 3.1%                      | 813                   | 4.0%                      | 580                   | 2.7%                      | 956                   | 3.1%                      |
| 14        | Other School: Other State                      | 379                   | 2.0%                      | 351                   | 1.7%                      | 329                   | 1.5%                      | 411                   | 1.3%                      |
| 11        | Other School: In District                      | 212                   | 1.1%                      | 184                   | 0.9%                      | 233                   | 1.1%                      | 550                   | 1.8%                      |

### Statewide Student Continuations and Completions

In the 2020-2021 school year, 21,544 students or 70.1 percent of all online school students were coded as completing the school year and not exiting the online school during the school year. This was the most frequent reason students were coded as continuing or completing. The second most frequently reported reason for continuing/completing was graduating with a diploma. According to the data, there were 3,325 students coded as graduating from online schools in the 2020-2021 school year, which represents 10.8 percent of all online students. This is a decrease from the previous school year, in which 13.4 percent of online students were coded as graduating with a diploma. The third most frequently reported reason for continuing/completing was students who were coded as having a grade reassignment in the same school. Students coded with the grade reassignment exit code accounted for 0.8 percent of online school students in the 2020-2019 school year. The breakdown of students coded with continuation or completion codes are listed below in Table 7. Table 8 shows that comparison between this school year and previous school years for the top five continuing or completing codes.



TABLE 7: Statewide Continued or Completed Grouping of Student Count by Exit Code

| Exit Code | Code Description                                               | Count  | Percentage of Online School Students |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------------------------------------|
| 00        | Completed/ Did Not Exit School Year                            | 21,554 | 70.1%                                |
| 90        | Graduated with Diploma                                         | 3,325  | 10.8%                                |
| 10        | Grade Reassignment in Same School                              | 238    | 0.8%                                 |
| 93/94     | Completed HSED Program<br>(93 In-District, 94 Out-of-District) | 66     | 0.2%                                 |
| 45        | 6 Week Absence but Now Returned                                | 39     | 0.1%                                 |
| 24        | Completed P-Tech/ASCENT Program                                | 25     | 0.1%                                 |
|           | Other (Continued/Completed)<br>(Codes 23, 92)                  | n<16   | n<16                                 |
|           |                                                                | 25,251 | 100%                                 |

TABLE 8: Top Five Continued or Completed Codes Statewide by Year

| Exit Code & Description                | 2017-18<br>Student<br>Count | 2017-18<br>Percent of<br>Online | 2018-19<br>Student<br>Count | 2018-19<br>Percent of<br>Online | 2019-20<br>Student<br>Count | 2019-20<br>Percent of<br>Online | 2020-21<br>Student<br>Count | 2020-21<br>Percent of<br>Online |
|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 00: Completed School Year/Did Not Exit | 12,571                      | 65.0%                           | 14,149                      | 68.7%                           | 14,997                      | 68.7%                           | 21,554                      | 70.1%                           |
| 90: Graduated with Diploma             | 2,488                       | 12.9%                           | 2,260                       | 11.0%                           | 2,932                       | 13.4%                           | 3,325                       | 10.8%                           |
| 93/94: Completed HSED Program          | 78                          | 0.4%                            | 85                          | 0.4%                            | 97                          | 0.4%                            | 66                          | 0.2%                            |
| 10: Grade Reassignment                 | 69                          | 0.4%                            | 97                          | 0.5%                            | 80                          | 0.4%                            | 238                         | 0.8%                            |
| 45: 6 Week Absence but Returned        | 42                          | 0.2%                            | 40                          | 0.2%                            | 29                          | 0.1%                            | 39                          | 0.1%                            |

## Student Withdrawals by Time After October Count

When a student leaves an online school in Colorado, the state collects data that identifies the end date of enrollment at the school. The purpose of the grouping below is to provide insight as to when students tend to withdraw from online schools.

**TABLE 9: 2020-2021 Statewide Online Student Enrollment Based on Grouping by Time**

| Grouping               | Exit Date Range<br>(Days past 10/01) | Student Count | Percentage of<br>Online Students |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|----------------------------------|
| Continued or Completed |                                      | 25,251        | 82.1%                            |
|                        | 0-30 Days                            | 1,248         | 4.1%                             |
|                        | 30-60 Days                           | 583           | 1.9%                             |
|                        | 60-90 Days                           | 724           | 2.4%                             |
|                        | 90-120 Days                          | 1,221         | 4.0%                             |
|                        | 120-150 Days                         | 646           | 2.1%                             |
|                        | 150-200 Days                         | 729           | 2.4%                             |
|                        | 200+ Days                            | 352           | 1.1%                             |
|                        | Total Withdrawals                    | 5,503         | 17.90%                           |
|                        | 2020-21 GRAND TOTAL                  | 30,754        | 100.00%                          |

### Withdrawals by Time of Year

In terms of when students are reported as withdrawing from online schools, Table 9 shows that greatest number of students tend to withdraw approximately 0-30 days after October Count and the next greatest number withdrew 90-120 days after. If withdrawal times are looked at in terms of semesters, students are coded as withdrawing at a slightly higher rate in the spring semester. 2,555 withdrawals occurred in the first 90 after October Count, or in what could be considered the first semester of the school year, and 2,596 withdrawals occurred in what could be considered the second semester (90-200 days after Student October Count). Figure 1 below displays the proportional distribution of student withdrawals in relation to the number of days after the Student October Count.

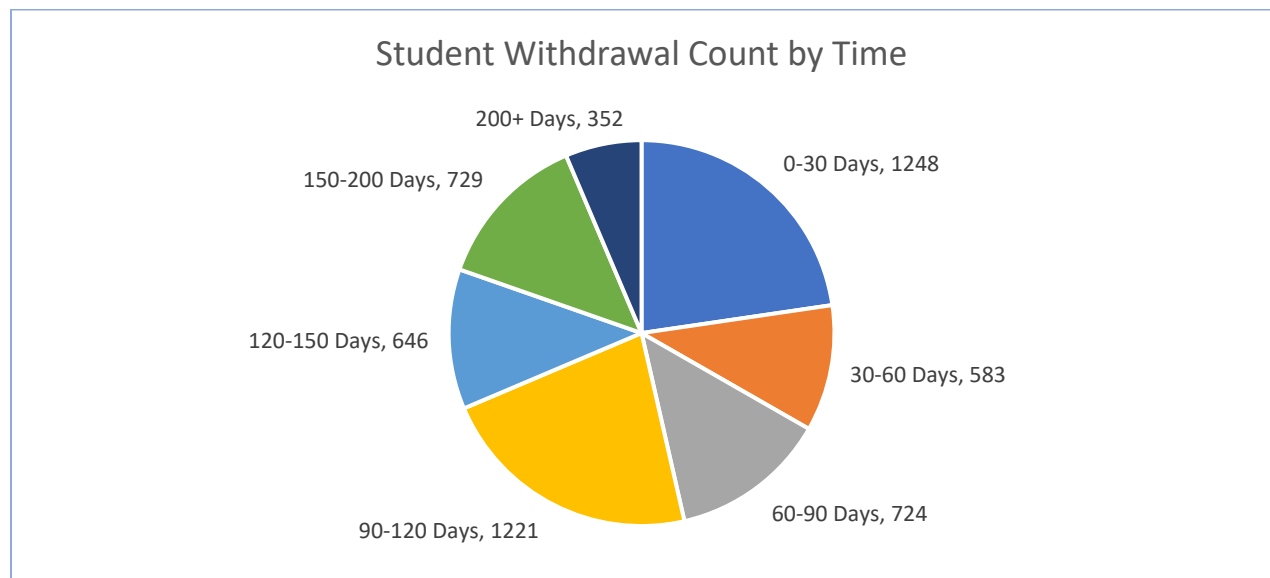




Figure 1: Online School Withdrawal Count Based on Calendar Days After October 1 Count

Within the 0-30 date range, students are coded as transferring to a school in a different school district most frequently, with transferring to homebased education (home school) as the next frequent occurrence as shown on Table 10 below.

TABLE 10: Top 10 Withdrawal Exit Code Records by Time in the 2020-2021 School Year

| Exit Code & Description                            | 0-30 Days | 30-60 Days | 60-90 Days | 90-120 Days | 120-150 Days | 150-200 Days | 200+ Days | Grand Total |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------|------------|------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|-------------|
| 13: Other School: Other LEA                        | 377       | 159        | 222        | 376         | 195          | 200          | 19        | 1,548       |
| 40: Dropped Out                                    | 146       | 133        | 163        | 202         | 189          | 244          | 94        | 1,171       |
| 16: Transfer to Home-Based Education (Home School) | 356       | 116        | 154        | 111         | 101          | 92           | 26        | 956         |
| 11: Other School: In District                      | 84        | 34         | 31         | 295         | 36           | 52           | 18        | 550         |
| 14: Other School - Other State                     | 67        | 43         | 65         | 87          | 47           | 40           | 62        | 411         |
| 06: Exited to Unknown Ed. Setting (K-6)            | 90        | 56         | 36         | 69          | 37           | 52           | n<16      | 347         |
| 15: Other School: Non-public                       | 75        | n<16       | 21         | 39          | n<16         | n<16         | 90        | 256         |
| 70: Transfer to HSED Program (Out-of-District)     | 31        | 25         | 17         | 23          | 23           | 23           | n<16      | 151         |
| 25: Extended Absences – 10+ Consecutive Days       | n<16      | n<16       | n<16       | n<16        | n<16         | n<16         | n<16      | 23          |
| 05: Other School: Out of Country                   | n<16      | n<16       | n<16       | n<16        | n<16         | n<16         | n<16      | 21          |
| Other Exit Codes (02,12,18,19,22,26,30,50,56)      | n<16      | n<16       | n<16       | 17          | n<16         | n<16         | 21        | 69          |
| GRAND TOTAL                                        | 1,248     | 583        | 724        | 1,221       | 646          | 729          | 352       | 5,503       |

## Student Withdrawals by School

In the 2020-2021 school year, the schools with the lowest reported withdrawal percentages were TCA College Pathways (Academy 20) and HOPE Online Learning Academy Middle School (Douglas County Re-1). Both online schools had a withdrawal percentage of 6 percent or less in the 2020-2021 school year. Eleven online schools had n counts too small to report and the withdrawal percentage is noted as n/a.

Table 11 shows the student count of each online school based on the groupings of “continued or completed” and “withdrew” in the 2020-2021 school year.



TABLE 11: 2020-2021 Online Student Count based on Grouping by Online School

| Online School                              | Authorizer                   | Continued/<br>Completed | Withdrew | Withdrew<br>(%) |
|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|----------|-----------------|
| 70 Online                                  | Pueblo County 70             | 191                     | 38       | 16.6%           |
| Achieve Online                             | Colorado Springs 11          | 263                     | 43       | 14.1%           |
| AIM Global                                 | Las Animas Re-1              | 1,517                   | 158      | 9.4%            |
| Alamosa Online                             | Alamosa RE-11J               | 366                     | 188      | 33.9%           |
| Astravo Academy High School                | Byers 32J                    | 335                     | 171      | 33.8%           |
| Astravo Academy Middle School              | Byers 32J                    | 489                     | 56       | 10.3%           |
| Astravo Online Academy Elementary School   | Byers 32J                    | 504                     | 270      | 34.9%           |
| Astravo Online Academy High School         | Byers 32J                    | 894                     | 395      | 30.6%           |
| Astravo Online Academy Middle School       | Byers 32J                    | 537                     | 186      | 25.7%           |
| Boulder Universal                          | Boulder Valley Re-2          | 713                     | 238      | 25.0%           |
| Branson School Online                      | Branson Reorganized 82       | 446                     | 72       | 13.9%           |
| Center Virtual Academy                     | Center 26 JT                 | n<16                    | n<16     | n/a             |
| Cherry Creek Elevation                     | Cherry Creek 5               | 113                     | 19       | 14.4%           |
| Colorado Connections @ Durango             | Durango 9                    | 1,784                   | 516      | 22.4%           |
| Colorado Connections Academy               | Mapleton 1                   | 2,232                   | 275      | 11.0%           |
| Colorado Virtual Academy                   | Byers 32J                    | 339                     | 95       | 21.9%           |
| Colorado Virtual Academy Middle School     | Byers 32J                    | 59                      | 17       | 22.4%           |
| Colorado Preparatory Elementary School     | Education reEnvisioned BOCES | 1,791                   | 468      | 20.7%           |
| Colorado Preparatory Academy High School   | Education reEnvisioned BOCES | 750                     | 135      | 15.3%           |
| Colorado Preparatory Academy Middle School | Education reEnvisioned BOCES | 966                     | 207      | 17.6%           |
| Colorado Virtual Academy High School       | Byers 32J                    | 294                     | 62       | 17.4%           |
| Denver Online High School                  | Denver County 1              | 223                     | 39       | 14.9%           |





| Online School                              | Authorizer                   | Continued/<br>Completed | Withdrew | Withdrew<br>(%) |
|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|----------|-----------------|
| Destinations Career Academy of Colorado    | Julesburg Re-1               | 692                     | 75       | 9.8%            |
| eDCSD                                      | Douglas County Re-1          | 44                      | n<16     | n/a             |
| GOAL Academy                               | District 49                  | 4,235                   | 996      | 19.0%           |
| Grand River Academy                        | Mesa County Valley 51        | 278                     | 33       | 10.6%           |
| Hanover Online Academy                     | Hanover 28                   | n<16                    | n<16     | n/a             |
| Holyoke Alternative School                 | Holyoke Re-1J                | 29                      | n<16     | n/a             |
| HOPE Online Learning Academy High School   | Douglas County Re-1          | 578                     | 66       | 10.2%           |
| HOPE Online Learning Academy Middle School | Douglas County Re-1          | 406                     | 26       | 6.0%            |
| Immersion Schools Science Technology Arts  | Las Animas Re-1              | 153                     | n<16     | n/a             |
| Inspire4 K-12 online School                | Windsor RE-4                 | 510                     | 107      | 17.3%           |
| Jeffco Virtual Academy                     | Jefferson County R-1         | 328                     | 44       | 11.8%           |
| Journey K8                                 | Academy 20                   | 108                     | 30       | 21.7%           |
| Monte Vista On-line Academy                | Monte Vista C-8              | 105                     | n<16     | n/a             |
| Paragon Learning Center                    | Pueblo City 60               | 237                     | 32       | 11.9%           |
| Pathways Future Center                     | Adams 12 Five Star Schools   | 271                     | 120      | 30.7%           |
| Peak Virtual Academy                       | Montrose County Re-1J        | 179                     | 25       | 12.3%           |
| Peyton Online Academy                      | Peyton 23 JT                 | 20                      | n<16     | n/a             |
| Pikes Peak Early College                   | District 49                  | 158                     | n<16     | n/a             |
| Pikes Peak Online School                   | Education reEnvisioned BOCES | 451                     | 119      | 20.9%           |
| PSD Global Academy                         | Poudre R-1                   | 218                     | 32       | 12.8%           |
| Southwest Colorado E-School                | San Juan BOCES               | 71                      | n<16     | n/a             |
| Springs Studio for Academic Excellence     | District 49                  | 427                     | 44       | 9.3%            |
| St. Vrain Global Online Academy            | St. Vrain Valley Re 1J       | 96                      | n<16     | n/a             |
| TCA College Pathways                       | Academy 20                   | 490                     | 21       | 4.1%            |



| Online School       | Authorizer         | Continued/<br>Completed | Withdrew | Withdrew<br>(%) |
|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|----------|-----------------|
| Village High School | Academy 20         | 300                     | n<16     | n/a             |
| World Academy       | Eagle County Re 50 | 48                      | 23       | 32.4%           |
| TOTAL               |                    | 25,251                  | 5,503    | 17.9%           |

Overall, more online schools saw their student withdrawal rates improve in the 2020-21 school year. For the schools with sufficient data to review, 21 of the schools saw their withdrawal rates decrease and 14 saw their rates increase as displayed in Table 12.

TABLE 12: Withdrawal Percentage over Time

| Online School                               | Authorizer                | 2018-19<br>Withdrawal | 2019-20<br>Withdrawal | 2020-21<br>Withdrawal | Percentage<br>Point<br>Difference<br>2020-21 to<br>2019-20 |
|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| 70 Online                                   | Pueblo County<br>70       | 17.1%                 | 18.8%                 | 16.6%                 | -2.2%                                                      |
| Achieve Online                              | Colorado<br>Springs 11    | 17.9%                 | 18.1%                 | 14.1%                 | -4.0%                                                      |
| AIM Global                                  | Las Animas Re-1           | 6.9%                  | 6.4%                  | 9.4%                  | +3.0%                                                      |
| Alamosa Online**                            | Alamosa RE-11J            | N/A                   | N/A                   | 33.9%                 | N/A                                                        |
| Astravo Academy High School                 | Byers 32J                 | 21.5%                 | 8.4%                  | 33.8%                 | +25.4%                                                     |
| Astravo Academy Middle School               | Byers 32J                 | 15.4%                 | 34.5%                 | 10.3%                 | -24.2%                                                     |
| Astravo Online Academy<br>Elementary School | Byers 32J                 | 40.0%                 | 41.6%                 | 34.9%                 | -6.7%                                                      |
| Astravo Online Academy High<br>School       | Byers 32J                 | 44.1%                 | 48.3%                 | 30.6%                 | -17.7%                                                     |
| Astravo Online Academy Middle<br>School     | Byers 32J                 | 36.0%                 | 8.8%                  | 25.7%                 | +16.9%                                                     |
| Boulder Universal                           | Boulder Valley<br>Re-2    | 19.1%                 | 11.8%                 | 25.0%                 | +13.2%                                                     |
| Branson School Online                       | Branson<br>Reorganized 82 | 23.8%                 | 19.2%                 | 13.9%                 | -5.3%                                                      |
| Center Virtual Academy                      | Center 26 JT              | 47.1%                 | 17.7%                 | N/A                   | N/A                                                        |
| Cherry Creek Elevation                      | Cherry Creek 5            | N/A                   | 19.0%                 | 14.4%                 | -4.6%                                                      |



| Online School                                  | Authorizer             | 2018-19<br>Withdrawal | 2019-20<br>Withdrawal | 2020-21<br>Withdrawal | Percentage<br>Point<br>Difference<br>2020-21 to<br>2019-20 |
|------------------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| Colorado Connections @ Durango                 | Durango 9              | 20.6%                 | 15.7%                 | 22.4%                 | +6.7%                                                      |
| Colorado Connections Academy                   | Mapleton 1             | 32.0%                 | 25.1%                 | 11.0%                 | -14.1%                                                     |
| Colorado Preparatory Academy High School       | Education reEnvisioned | 19.9%                 | 14.4%                 | 15.3%                 | +0.9%                                                      |
| Colorado Preparatory Academy Elementary School | Education reEnvisioned | 16.0%                 | 22.3%                 | 20.7%                 | -1.6%                                                      |
| Colorado Preparatory Middle School             | Education reEnvisioned | 22.2%                 | 23.8%                 | 17.6%                 | -6.2%                                                      |
| Colorado Virtual Academy                       | Byers 32J              | 23.9%                 | 13.5%                 | 21.9%                 | +8.4%                                                      |
| Colorado Virtual Academy Middle School         | Byers 32J              | 31.7%                 | 11.2%                 | 22.4%                 | +11.2%                                                     |
| Colorado Virtual Academy High School           | Byers 32J              | 36.0%                 | 22.3%                 | 17.4%                 | -4.9%                                                      |
| Denver Online High School                      | Denver County 1        | 14.5%                 | 24.2%                 | 14.9%                 | -9.3%                                                      |
| Destinations Career Academy of Colorado        | Julesburg Re-1         | 14.8%                 | 19.8%                 | 9.8%                  | -10.0%                                                     |
| eDCSD                                          | Douglas County Re-1    | 14.3%                 | 5.7%                  | N/A                   | N/A                                                        |
| GOAL Academy                                   | District 49            | 23.7%                 | 19.5%                 | 19.0%                 | -0.5%                                                      |
| Grand River Academy                            | Mesa County Valley 51  | 14.6%                 | 15.2%                 | 10.6%                 | -4.6%                                                      |
| Hanover Online Academy                         | Hanover 28             | 50.0%                 | 60.0%                 | N/A                   | N/A                                                        |
| Holyoke Alternative School                     | Holyoke Re-1J          | 18.8%                 | 20.0%                 | N/A                   | N/A                                                        |
| HOPE Online Learning Academy High School       | Douglas County Re-1    | 12.1%                 | 12.1%                 | 10.2%                 | -1.9%                                                      |
| HOPE Online Learning Academy Middle School     | Douglas County Re-1    | 10.2%                 | 9.2%                  | 6.0%                  | -3.2%                                                      |
| Immersion Schools Science Technology Arts      | Las Animas Re-1        | 10.4%                 | 0.8%                  | N/A                   | N/A                                                        |
| Jeffco Virtual Academy                         | Jefferson County R-1   | 24.6%                 | 19.7%                 | 11.8%                 | -7.9%                                                      |
| Journey K8                                     | Academy 20             | 23.1%                 | 17.5%                 | 21.7%                 | +4.2%                                                      |
| Monte Vista On-line Academy                    | Monte Vista C-8        | 8.5%                  | 14.9%                 | N/A                   | N/A                                                        |



| Online School                             | Authorizer                    | 2018-19<br>Withdrawal | 2019-20<br>Withdrawal | 2020-21<br>Withdrawal | Percentage<br>Point<br>Difference<br>2020-21 to<br>2019-20 |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| Paragon Learning Center                   | Pueblo City 60                | 29.5%                 | 13.0%                 | 11.9%                 | -1.1%                                                      |
| Pathways Future Center                    | Adams 12 Five<br>Star Schools | 25.9%                 | 19.6%                 | 30.7%                 | +11.1%                                                     |
| Peak Virtual Academy                      | Montrose<br>County Re-1J      | 3.7%                  | 12.0%                 | 12.3%                 | +0.3%                                                      |
| Peyton Online Academy                     | Peyton 23 JT                  | 12.9%                 | 13.0%                 | N/A                   | N/A                                                        |
| Pikes Peak Early College                  | District 49                   | 1.1%                  | 1.1%                  | N/A                   | N/A                                                        |
| Pikes Peak Online School                  | Education<br>reEnvisioned     | 27.1%                 | 22.1%                 | 20.9%                 | -1.2%                                                      |
| PSD Global Academy                        | Poudre R-1                    | 9.0%                  | 11.3%                 | 12.8%                 | +1.5%                                                      |
| Southwest Colorado E-School               | San Juan BOCES                | 10.0%                 | 16.4%                 | N/A                   | N/A                                                        |
| Springs Studio for Academic<br>Excellence | District 49                   | 5.9%                  | 8.5%                  | 9.3%                  | +0.8%                                                      |
| St. Vrain Global Online Academy           | St. Vrain Valley<br>Re 1J     | 15.9%                 | 22.7%                 | N/A                   | N/A                                                        |
| TCA College Pathways                      | Academy 20                    | 3.8%                  | 4.0%                  | 4.1%                  | +0.1%                                                      |
| Village High School                       | Academy 20                    | 3.1%                  | 2.3%                  | N/A                   | N/A                                                        |
| World Academy                             | Eagle County Re<br>50         | 13.3%                 | 47.0%                 | 32.4%                 | -14.6%                                                     |

\*\*Opened in 2020-19 school year

### Withdrawals by Online School Type

There are two different types of online schools and data for both is included in this report. A multi-district online school (MDOL) is defined in statute as an online school that enrolls students from more than one district. MDOLs can be a charter school or a non-charter school. In the 2020-2021 school year, 12 of the 36 MDOLs were charter schools. A single district online school (SDOL) is defined as an online school that enrolls students within the school district that the online school is located in. SDOLs can be charter schools or non-charter schools. In the 2020-2021 school year there were 12 SDOLs in operation. All the SDOLs in 2020-2021 were non-charter.

When reviewing the data by school type, students were coded as withdrawing at a higher percentage in charter than non-charter MDOLs. In previous years of this report, data also indicated that charter MDOLs reported more student withdrawals than their non-charter counterparts; however, the gap has closed significantly. In the 2019-20 school year, 15.5% of students were reported as withdrawing from a non-charter MDOL and 18.3% of students from a charter MDOL. In the 2020-21 school year, non-charter MDOL withdrawal rates rose slightly to 15.6 percent of enrollments, and MDOL charter withdrawal rates rose to 20.5 percent.



In SDOLs, student withdrawal rates increased. In the 2019-20 school year, 17.1 percent of students were coded as withdrawing and in 2020-21, that rate increased to 20.6 percent.

**TABLE 13: 2020-2021 Statewide Online Student Enrollment Based on School Type**

| School Type                  | Online Schools (#) | Online Schools (%) | Continued/Completed | Withdrew     | Total         | Withdrew (%) |
|------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| Multi-district (Charter)     | 12                 | 25%                | 9,160               | 2,361        | 11,521        | 20.5%        |
| Multi-District (Non-Charter) | 24                 | 50%                | 13,913              | 2,578        | 16,491        | 15.6%        |
| Single-District              | 12                 | 25%                | 2,178               | 564          | 2,742         | 20.6%        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                 | <b>48</b>          | <b>100%</b>        | <b>25,251</b>       | <b>5,503</b> | <b>30,754</b> | <b>17.9%</b> |

### Withdrawals by School

As mentioned earlier in the report, three exit codes account for the highest occurrence of withdrawals – specifically, 3,675 of the 5,503 total withdrawals can be attributed to one of these three exit codes. Given small n-sizes when displaying data by online school and exit type, the following tables below show the five online schools with **the highest number** (not percentage) of each of the following exit codes:

- Exit Code 13 – Transferred to Other School: Other LEA
- Exit Code 40 – Dropped Out (Grades 7-12)
- Exit Code 16 – Transferred to Home-Based Education (Home School)

**TABLE 14: Online Schools with Highest Number of Exit Code 13 Records in 2020-2021 (Transferred: Other LEA)**

| Online School                            | Authorizer                   | Exit Code 13 Withdrawals | Total of All Withdrawals for School | % from Exit Code 13 |
|------------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Colorado Preparatory Elementary School   | Education reEnvisioned BOCES | 408                      | 468                                 | 87.2%               |
| Astravo Online Academy Elementary School | Byers 32J                    | 140                      | 270                                 | 51.9%               |
| Colorado Preparatory Middle School       | Education reEnvisioned BOCES | 137                      | 207                                 | 66.2%               |
| GOAL Academy                             | District 49                  | 116                      | 996                                 | 11.6%               |
| Colorado Connections Academy             | Mapleton                     | 98                       | 275                                 | 35.6%               |



TABLE 15: Online Schools with Highest Number of Exit Code 40 Records in 2020-2021 (Dropped Out)

| Online School                            | Authorizer                   | Exit Code 40 Withdrawals | Total of All Withdrawals for School | % from Exit Code 40 |
|------------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| GOAL Academy                             | District 49                  | 730                      | 996                                 | 73.3%               |
| Pathways Future Center                   | Adams 12 Five Star Schools   | 81                       | 120                                 | 67.5%               |
| AIM Global                               | Las Animas RE-1              | 65                       | 158                                 | 41.1%               |
| Pikes Peak Online School                 | Education reEnvisioned BOCES | 61                       | 119                                 | 51.3%               |
| HOPE Online Learning Academy High School | Douglas County Re 1          | 27                       | 66                                  | 40.9%               |

TABLE 16: Online Schools with Highest Number of Exit Code 16 Records in 2020-2021 (Transferred to Home School)

| Online School                            | Authorizer | Exit Code 16 Withdrawals | Total of all Withdrawals for school | % from Exit Code 16 |
|------------------------------------------|------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Astravo Online Academy High School       | Byers 32J  | 279                      | 395                                 | 70.6%               |
| Astravo Online Academy Elementary School | Byers 32J  | 126                      | 270                                 | 46.7%               |
| Astravo Online Academy Middle School     | Byers 32J  | 102                      | 186                                 | 54.8%               |
| Colorado Connections Academy             | Mapleton 1 | 74                       | 275                                 | 26.9%               |
| Colorado Virtual Academy High School     | Byers 32J  | 45                       | 62                                  | 72.6%               |

## Student Withdrawals, Continuations and Completions by Grade Level

A review of the data shows that more students are reported and coded as withdrawing in the high school grade level in comparison to the elementary or middle levels. The largest number of students are reported and coded as withdrawing in the 12th grade. Table 17 below shows the number of students coded as withdrawing by grade level or range and exit date range.



TABLE 17: Students Coded as Withdrawals by Grade and Date Range in 2020-2021 School Year

| Grade Range                      | 0-30 Days | 30-60 Days | 60-90 Days | 90-120 Days | 120-150 Days | 150-200 Days | 200+ Days | Total by Grade Range |
|----------------------------------|-----------|------------|------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|----------------------|
| K-2 <sup>nd</sup>                | 237       | 96         | 78         | 158         | 82           | 90           | 22        | 763                  |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> | 214       | 84         | 90         | 176         | 91           | 93           | 16        | 764                  |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> | 267       | 101        | 157        | 255         | 114          | 123          | 26        | 1,043                |
| 9 <sup>th</sup>                  | 67        | 39         | 60         | 119         | 42           | 48           | 29        | 404                  |
| 10 <sup>th</sup>                 | 105       | 51         | 74         | 131         | 60           | 67           | 23        | 511                  |
| 11 <sup>th</sup>                 | 97        | 66         | 81         | 134         | 82           | 91           | 23        | 574                  |
| 12 <sup>th</sup>                 | 261       | 146        | 184        | 248         | 175          | 217          | 213       | 1,444                |
| TOTAL STUDENTS                   | 1,248     | 583        | 724        | 1,221       | 646          | 729          | 352       | 5,503                |

### Continuations and Completions by Grade Level

Table 18 shows the five most frequently reported reasons students continued/completed by grade ranges. Of the students reported as “continued or completed” for the 2020-21 school year, 21,554 or 85.4 percent were reported as completing the school year with the online school.

Students reported as graduating totaled 3,325 students or 13.2 percent of the total amount of completers. Other reasons for completion include students who are reported as having completed a High School Equivalency Diploma (HSED). There are two codes associated with HSED completion: one indicates that a student completed the HSED through a program administered by the same local education agency and the other indicates that the student transferred to another local education agency and completed with an HSED. In the 2020-2021 school year, 66 students were assigned one of these two codes signaling completion with an HSED. In 2020-2021, 238 students were coded as having been reassigned to another grade level within the same online school. 39 students were coded as having an extended absence of six weeks or longer but then returning to the online school. Other categories of completion (completion without a diploma, graduating but not completing the P-TECH or ASCENT program, etc.) have too small of an n-count to report.



TABLE 18: Top Five Continuation and Completion Codes by Grade Range in 2020-2021 School Year

| Exit Code & Description                                            | K-2 <sup>nd</sup> | 3 <sup>rd</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> | 6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> | 9 <sup>th</sup> | 10 <sup>th</sup> | 11 <sup>th</sup> | 12 <sup>th</sup> | Totals |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|--------|
| 00: Completed/ Did Not Exit School Year                            | 2,285             | 2,711                            | 5,621                            | 2,421           | 2,937            | 3,383            | 2,196            | 21,554 |
| 90: Graduated with Diploma                                         | N/A               | N/A                              | N/A                              | N/A             | N<16             | 185              | 3,134            | 3,325  |
| 10: Grade Reassignment in Same School                              | n<16              | n<16                             | n<16                             | n<16            | 90               | 98               | 18               | 238    |
| 94/93: Completed HSED Program (93-In-District, 94-Out of District) |                   |                                  |                                  | n<16            | n<16             | 17               | 41               | 66     |
| 45: 6 Week or Longer Absence but Returned                          |                   |                                  |                                  | n<16            | n<16             | n<16             | 28               | 39     |

### Grade Reassignment and Retention Coding

State statute requires this report to include an analysis of the grade level of students entering online schools and the grade level of students when the students transfer. For this report, when the student exits during the school year, we use their identified grade level at the start of the school year as captured by the October Count collection. There are some other grade change indicators that are collected, which will be described in greater detail below.

The Student End of Year data collection codes students who have completed the school year but have been retained in their grade. A retention code indicates a student will repeat a grade level in the subsequent school year.

A review of data for the 2020-2021 school year shows that, in grades K through 11, the number of students coded with a retention code was minimal (i.e., with n counts less than 16) for each grade level; however, in total, there were 46 students in grade K-11 that were coded with a retention code. For students in grade 12, however, 2,252 students were reported as being retained and assigned a retention code. This is a 44.8% increase from the previous year when 1,555 students in 12<sup>th</sup> grade were reported with a retention code. When interpreting this data, remember that overall online enrollment grew in this period by 42.6%. Retention rates may also have been impacted by the pandemic and students needing extra time to reach their academic milestones.

Colorado supports the notion that some students need more time to meet graduation requirements and may spend more than one year in 12<sup>th</sup> grade in order to access the education they need to graduate. Table 20 shows the five online schools with the highest number of 12<sup>th</sup> grade students coded with a retention code of “01”.

If a student is re-assigned to a different grade level at some point in the school year in the same school, the student is reported with an exit code 10. Students that are re-assigned to a different grade level are then given a new entry to track status for the remainder of the year. For the 2020-2021 school year there were 238 students that were coded as having a grade re-assignment during the school year. Some examples of a grade level reassignment include beginning of the school year retention, or a mid-year grade promotion.



**TABLE 19: 2020-2021 Five Online Schools with the Largest Number of "01" Retention Code for 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Students**

| Online School                      | District            | Student Coded with "01" Retention Code |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------------|
| GOAL Academy                       | District 49         | 1,309                                  |
| AIM Global                         | Las Animas RE-1     | 312                                    |
| HOPE Online Learning Academy HS    | Douglas County Re 1 | 84                                     |
| Astravo Online Academy High School | Byers 32J           | 81                                     |
| Paragon Learning Center            | Pueblo City 60      | 70                                     |

## Enrollments after Student October Count

In addition to students leaving online schools, students also enroll in online schools throughout the school year. Table 20 displays the number of students who entered each online school after October 1<sup>st</sup>. Due to student privacy restrictions, the difference shown between withdrawals and enrollments in schools with small n-counts will be shown as "n/a" in Table 20.

Of note, the number of students withdrawing from online schools in the 2020-21 school years is significantly larger than the number of students entering online schools after October 1<sup>st</sup>. In the 2020-21 school year, records indicate there were 5,503 student withdrawals after October 1<sup>st</sup>. The number of students reported as entering online schools after October 1<sup>st</sup> was 2,627. There is a difference of 2,876 students who were enrolled during October Count and withdrew. In previous years of this report, the number of students enrolled after October 1<sup>st</sup> was slightly less than the number of students who withdrew.

**TABLE 20: 2020-2021 Online School Withdrawals and New Enrollments after October 1**

| Online School                 | Authorizer          | Withdrawals After 10/1 | Enrollments After 10/1 | Difference |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------|
| 70 Online                     | Pueblo County 70    | 38                     | 74                     | +36        |
| Achieve Online                | Colorado Springs 11 | 43                     | 40                     | -3         |
| AIM Global                    | Las Animas Re-1     | 158                    | 122                    | -36        |
| Alamosa Online                | Alamosa RE-11J      | 188                    | 47                     | -141       |
| Astravo Academy High School   | Byers 32J           | 171                    | 18                     | -153       |
| Astravo Academy Middle School | Byers 32J           | 56                     | n<16                   | n/a        |



| Online School                              | Authorizer                      | Withdrawals<br>After 10/1 | Enrollments<br>After 10/1 | Difference |
|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------|
| Astravo Online Academy Elementary School   | Byers 32J                       | 270                       | 226                       | -44        |
| Astravo Online Academy High School         | Byers 32J                       | 395                       | 314                       | -81        |
| Astravo Online Academy Middle School       | Byers 32J                       | 186                       | 313                       | +127       |
| Boulder Universal                          | Boulder Valley Re-2             | 238                       | 50                        | -188       |
| Branson School Online                      | Branson<br>Reorganized 82       | 72                        | 19                        | -53        |
| Center Virtual Academy                     | Center 26 JT                    | n<16                      | n<16                      | n/a        |
| Cherry Creek Elevation                     | Cherry Creek 5                  | 19                        | n<16                      | n/a        |
| Colorado Connections @ Durango             | Durango 9                       | 516                       | 47                        | -469       |
| Colorado Connections Academy               | Mapleton 1                      | 275                       | 88                        | -187       |
| Colorado Virtual Academy                   | Byers 32J                       | 95                        | 99                        | +4         |
| Colorado Virtual Academy Middle School     | Byers 32J                       | 17                        | 42                        | +25        |
| Colorado Preparatory Elementary School     | Education<br>reEnvisioned BOCES | 468                       | 89                        | -379       |
| Colorado Preparatory Academy High School   | Education<br>reEnvisioned BOCES | 135                       | 39                        | -96        |
| Colorado Preparatory Academy Middle School | Education<br>reEnvisioned BOCES | 207                       | 110                       | -97        |
| Colorado Virtual Academy High School       | Byers 32J                       | 62                        | 60                        | -2         |
| Denver Online High School                  | Denver County 1                 | 39                        | n<16                      | n/a        |
| Destinations Career Academy of Colorado    | Julesburg Re-1                  | 75                        | 0                         | -75        |
| eDCSD                                      | Douglas County Re-1             | n<16                      | n<16                      | n/a        |
| GOAL Academy                               | District 49                     | 996                       | 321                       | -675       |
| Grand River Academy                        | Mesa County Valley<br>51        | 33                        | 33                        | 0          |
| Hanover Online Academy                     | Hanover 28                      | n<16                      | n<16                      | n/a        |
| Holyoke Alternative School                 | Holyoke Re-1J                   | n<16                      | n<16                      | n/a        |
| HOPE Online Learning Academy High School   | Douglas County Re-1             | 66                        | 34                        | -32        |



| Online School                              | Authorizer                   | Withdrawals<br>After 10/1 | Enrollments<br>After 10/1 | Difference |
|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------|
| HOPE Online Learning Academy Middle School | Douglas County Re-1          | 26                        | n<16                      | n/a        |
| Immersion Schools Science Technology Arts  | Las Animas Re-1              | n<16                      | 21                        | n/a        |
| Inspire4 K-12 online School                | Windsor RE-4                 | 107                       | 27                        | -80        |
| Jeffco Virtual Academy                     | Jefferson County R-1         | 44                        | 33                        | -11        |
| Journey K8                                 | Academy 20                   | 30                        | n<16                      | n/a        |
| Monte Vista On-line Academy                | Monte Vista C-8              | n<16                      | n<16                      | n/a        |
| Paragon Learning Center                    | Pueblo City 60               | 32                        | 63                        | +31        |
| Pathways Future Center                     | Adams 12 Five Star Schools   | 120                       | 109                       | -11        |
| Peak Virtual Academy                       | Montrose County Re-1J        | 25                        | n<16                      | n/a        |
| Peyton Online Academy                      | Peyton 23 JT                 | n<16                      | n<16                      | n/a        |
| Pikes Peak Early College                   | District 49                  | n<16                      | n<16                      | n/a        |
| Pikes Peak Online School                   | Education reEnvisioned BOCES | 119                       | 17                        | -102       |
| PSD Global Academy                         | Poudre R-1                   | 32                        | 23                        | -9         |
| Southwest Colorado E-School                | San Juan BOCES               | n<16                      | n<16                      | n/a        |
| Springs Studio for Academic Excellence     | District 49                  | 44                        | n<16                      | n/a        |
| St. Vrain Global Online Academy            | St. Vrain Valley Re 1J       | n<16                      | n<16                      | n/a        |
| TCA College Pathways                       | Academy 20                   | 21                        | n<16                      | n/a        |
| Village High School                        | Academy 20                   | N/A                       | 33                        | n/a        |
| World Academy                              | Eagle County Re 50           | 23                        | 25                        | +2         |
| GRAND TOTAL                                |                              | 5,503                     | 2,627                     | -2,876     |



## Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic

In March 2020, Governor Jared Polis suspended in-person learning in all Colorado schools due to the COVID-19 pandemic, leading to the closure of schools, a shift toward remote learning, and an increased interest in online learning. In the 2019-20 school year, 21,863 students were reported as being enrolled in an online school in the Student October Count data collection. The 2020-21 school year saw a significant increase in enrollment in online schools with 31,174 students reported as enrolled in an online school. This is a 42.6 percent increase from the 2019-20 school year to the 2020-21 school year. Table 21 reports the enrollment count changes from 2019-20 to 2020-21 by online school.

It is important to note that most districts implemented some sort of remote learning during this time as well. Due to flexibilities offered by the Department, districts were able to offer remote learning options that may have included online learning. Those students educated using these remote learning options are not included in these totals as they were enrolled as a “brick and mortar” student and were coded differently than those students who are enrolled in an online school.

**TABLE 21: Online School Enrollment 2019-20 to 2020-21**

| Authorizer                 | Online School                            | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | Enrollment Change |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------|---------|-------------------|
| Academy 20                 | Journey K8                               | 137     | 141     | +4                |
| Academy 20                 | TCA College Pathways                     | 522     | 512     | -10               |
| Academy 20                 | Village High School                      | 214     | 310     | +96               |
| Adams 12 Five Star Schools | Pathways Future Center                   | 304     | 392     | +88               |
| Alamosa RE-11J             | Alamosa Online                           | *       | 556     | +556              |
| Boulder Valley Re 2        | Boulder Universal                        | 76      | 954     | +878              |
| Branson Reorganized 82     | Branson School Online                    | 364     | 522     | +158              |
| Byers 32J                  | Astravo Academy High School              | 191     | 525     | +334              |
| Byers 32J                  | Astravo Academy Middle School            | 200     | 551     | +351              |
| Byers 32J                  | Astravo Online Academy Elementary School | 114     | 805     | +691              |
| Byers 32J                  | Astravo Online Academy High School       | 485     | 1,332   | +847              |
| Byers 32J                  | Astravo Online Academy Middle School     | 68      | 756     | +688              |
| Byers 32J                  | Colorado Virtual Academy                 | 237     | 447     | +210              |
| Byers 32J                  | Colorado Virtual Academy High School     | 357     | 370     | +13               |



| Authorizer                   | Online School                                  | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | Enrollment Change |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|-------------------|
| Byers 32J                    | Colorado Virtual Academy Middle School         | 135     | 78      | -57               |
| Center 26 JT                 | Center Virtual Academy                         | 16      | n<16    | n/a               |
| Cherry Creek 5               | Cherry Creek Elevation                         | 121     | 133     | +12               |
| Colorado Springs 11          | Achieve Online                                 | 271     | 308     | +37               |
| Denver County 1              | Denver Online High School                      | 287     | 263     | -24               |
| District 49                  | GOAL Academy                                   | 4,965   | 5,308   | +343              |
| District 49                  | Pikes Peak Early College                       | 179     | 162     | -17               |
| District 49                  | Springs Studio for Academic Excellence         | 402     | 472     | +70               |
| Douglas County Re 1          | eDCSD                                          | 35      | 45      | +10               |
| Douglas County Re 1          | HOPE Online Learning Academy Elementary School | 846     | 0       | -846              |
| Douglas County Re 1          | HOPE Online Learning Academy High School       | 590     | 651     | +61               |
| Douglas County Re 1          | HOPE Online Learning Academy Middle School     | 489     | 439     | -50               |
| Durango 9-R                  | Colorado Connections Academy @ Durango         | 810     | 2,340   | +1,530            |
| Eagle County RE 50           | World Academy                                  | 32      | 71      | +39               |
| Education reEnvisioned BOCES | Colorado Preparatory Academy Elementary School | 714     | 2,280   | +1,566            |
| Education reEnvisioned BOCES | Colorado Preparatory Academy High School       | 659     | 895     | +236              |
| Education reEnvisioned BOCES | Colorado Preparatory Academy Middle School     | 685     | 1,178   | +493              |
| Education reEnvisioned BOCES | Pikes Peak Online School                       | 778     | 570     | -208              |
| Hanover 28                   | Hanover Online Academy                         | n<16    | n<16    | n/a               |
| Holyoke Re-1J                | Holyoke Alternative School                     | n<16    | 31      | n/a               |
| Jefferson County R-1         | Jeffco Virtual Academy                         | 304     | 374     | +70               |
| Julesburg Re-1               | Destinations Career Academy of Colorado        | 545     | 777     | +232              |



| Authorizer                | Online School                                | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | Enrollment Change |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------|---------|---------|-------------------|
| Las Animas RE-1           | AIM Global                                   | 1,796   | 1,701   | -95               |
| Las Animas RE-1           | Immersion Schools Science<br>Technology Arts | 128     | 168     | +40               |
| Mapleton 1                | Colorado Connections Academy                 | 2,274   | 2,532   | +258              |
| Mesa County Valley<br>51  | Grand River Academy                          | 328     | 311     | -17               |
| Monte Vista C-8           | Monte Vista On-Line Academy                  | 114     | 117     | +3                |
| Montrose County RE-<br>1J | Peak Virtual Academy                         | 185     | 204     | +19               |
| Peyton 23 JT              | Peyton Online Academy                        | 31      | 25      | -6                |
| Poudre R-1                | PSD Global Academy                           | 266     | 251     | -15               |
| Pueblo City 60            | Paragon Learning Center                      | 187     | 269     | +82               |
| Pueblo County 70          | 70 Online                                    | 218     | 230     | +12               |
| San Juan BOCES            | Southwest Colorado eSchool                   | 61      | 74      | +13               |
| St Vrain Valley RE1J      | St. Vrain Global Online Academy              | 128     | 107     | -21               |
| Windsor RE-4              | Inspire4 K-12 Online School                  | *       | 618     | +618              |
| TOTAL                     |                                              | 21,863  | 31,174  | +9,311            |

\*Opened in 2020-19 school year

## Conclusion

During the 2020-2021 school year, 5,503 students were coded as withdrawing from an online school after the October Count. Based on an analysis of the 2020-2021 data for students enrolled in both types of online schools (MDOL and SDOL), the three most widely assigned exit codes were for: 1) students withdrawing and transferring to a school in another school district (n=1,548); 2) students dropping out (n=1,171); and 3) students transferring to a non-public home-based education setting (home school) (n=956).

The data from 2019-20 compared to data from the 2020-21 year showed an increase of 1,848 student withdrawals. Students coded as completing and not exiting at any time during the school year increased by 7,088 students from the previous year. While these increases are significant, it is important to note that the number of students reported as being enrolled in an online school on October 1<sup>st</sup> also increased significantly (42.6 percent from the previous school year).



Data for 2020-2021 shows that students in online schools withdraw after October Count more frequently in the first 0-30 days and 90-120 days after October Count than other times of the school year. The most withdrawals occur among students in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade with 26.2 percent of the total 5,503 students coded as withdrawing from online schools after October 1<sup>st</sup>.

As in the previous school year, analysis showed that students in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade were retained for an additional year in the same grade more than students in any other grade level, meaning that they are not fully completing or graduating and are taking more time to complete high school.

Student graduation and completions from online schools totaled 25,251 for the 2020-2021 school year. This accounts for 82.1 percent of student records analyzed for this report. Of the students who graduated and/or completed the year with their online October Count school of record, 3,325 students were coded as graduating, which is an increase of 403 students from 2019-20. 66 students were coded as having completed the High School Equivalency Diploma (HSED).

In the spring of the 2019-20 school year, in-person learning was suspended in all Colorado schools due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The pause of in-person learning led to the closure of schools, a shift toward remote learning, and an increased interest in online learning even after the suspension of in-person learning was lifted. There was a significant increase in enrollments in online schools as reported in the Student October Count data collection. Overall, student enrollment in online schools saw a 42.6 percent increase from the previous school year.