

Virginia On-Time Graduation Rate

Commission on Youth

Why the Virginia On-Time Graduation Rate?

... if shipping companies can track packages, schools should be able to trace the progress of students.

Bob Wise

**Alliance for Excellent Education
Washington Post, October 9, 2008**

Legislative, Regulatory & Policy Background

National Governors Association (NGA), 2005:

- NGA task force report recommends all states adopt graduation rate measuring on-time graduation with most students expected to earn diploma in 4 years

Virginia General Assembly, 2006:

- HB 19, sponsored by Del. William Fralin, directs Board of Education to collect, analyze & report high school graduation data using formula reflecting NGA task force recommendations beginning October 2008

Board of Education-Approved Virginia On-Time Graduation Rate

On-time diploma graduates in year x

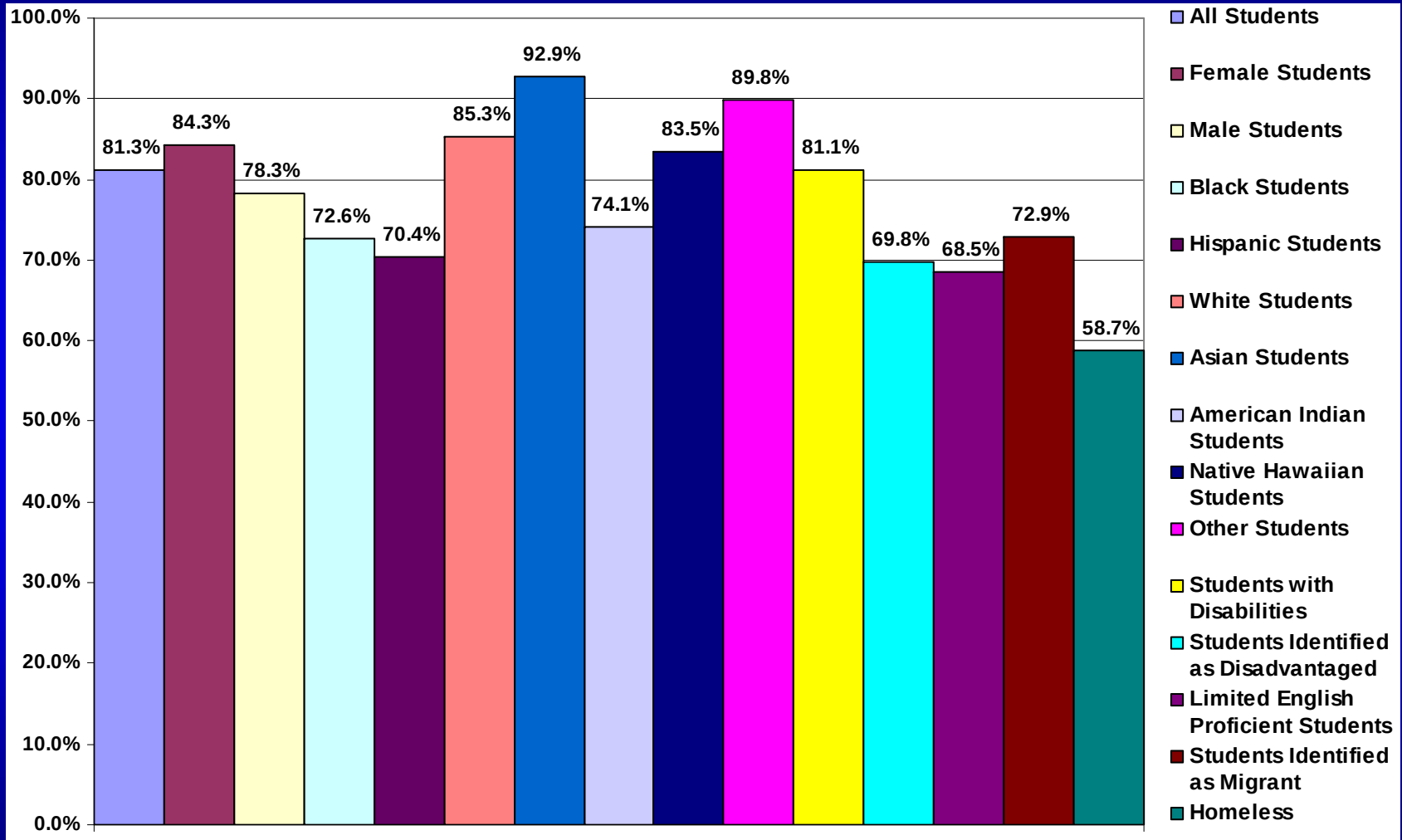
$$[(\text{First-time entering 9}^{\text{th}} \text{ graders in year } x - 4) + (\text{transfers in}) - (\text{transfers out \& deceased})]$$

Virginia On-Time Graduate Rate

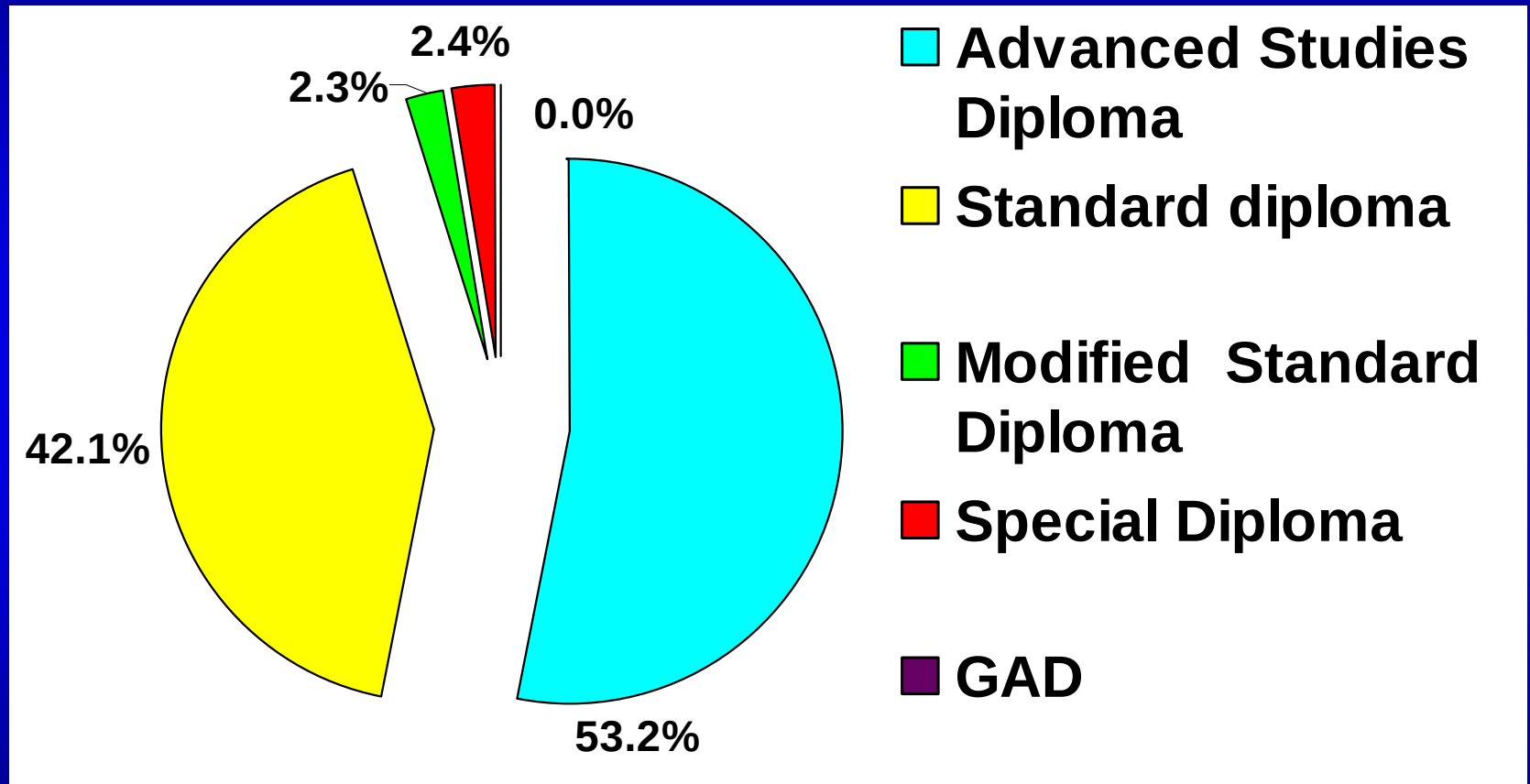
Class of 2008 Results

<i>Subgroup</i>	<i>Cohort Number</i>	<i>Earned Diploma</i>	<i>VA On-Time Graduation Rate</i>
All Students	96,979	78,805	81.3%
Female Students	48,134	40,566	84.3%
Male Students	48,845	38,239	78.3%
Black Students	26,058	18,922	72.6%
Hispanic Students	5,872	4,131	70.4%
White Students	58,750	50,097	85.3%
Asian Students	4,746	4,407	92.9%
American Indian Students	286	212	74.1%
Native Hawaiian Students	91	76	83.5%
Other Students	6,299	5,655	89.8%
Students with Disabilities	10,838	8,790	81.1%
Students Identified as Disadvantaged	21,435	14,965	69.8%
Limited-English Proficient Students	3,171	2,172	68.5%
Students Identified as Migrant	59	43	72.9%
Homeless	511	300	58.7%

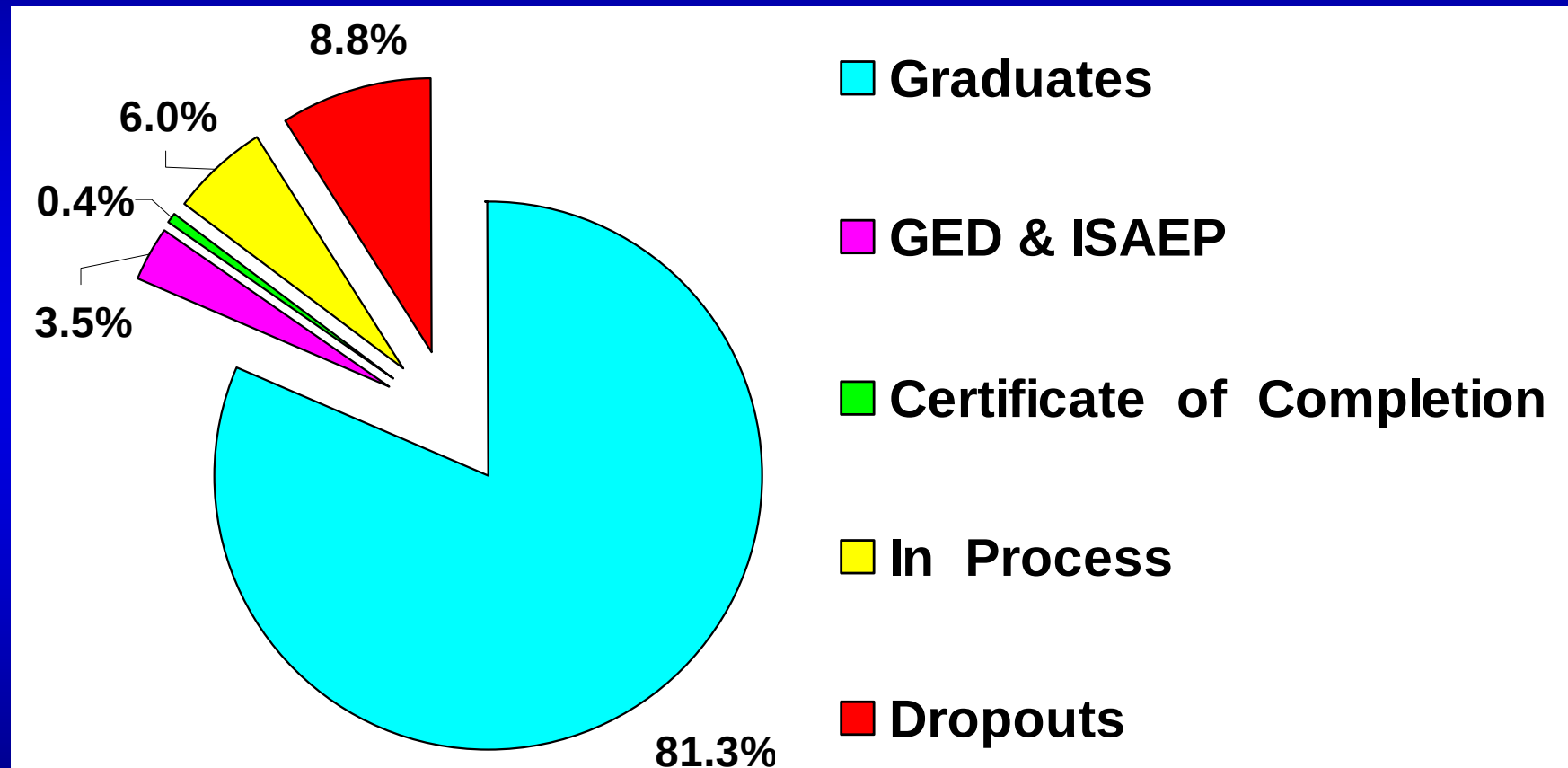
Class of 2008 Graduates



Class of 2008 Graduates



Class of 2008 Cohort Results



What about Dropouts?

- The dropout rate for a school or division is not the inverse of its Virginia On-Time Graduation Rate
- VDOE will calculate cohort dropout rates for schools & divisions in early 2009 after submission of 2007-2008 academic-year dropout data

Reaction

“We are better off than what we thought we were, but we are not as good as what we want to be.”

Patricia Wright, Superintendent of Public Instruction

“What I worry about are the kids without the high school diploma. We’re now doing a much better job of tracking them, finding them and getting them reattached.”

Rita Bishop, Roanoke Superintendent

“There needs to be a really active role in state leadership and district leadership in ensuring ... the quality and accuracy of the data that gets fed into this calculation.”

Daria Hall, Education Trust

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