

# Midyear School Transitions & 4-Year Graduation for the Oregon High School Class of 2020



Fact Sheet  
March 2023

## Foundational Overview

[Previous OCID analysis](#) identified midyear school transitions as one of the top 3 barriers to 4-year graduation, one measure of educational success. This fact sheet provides a foundational overview of students who change schools midyear, to guide decisions to better support children in Oregon.

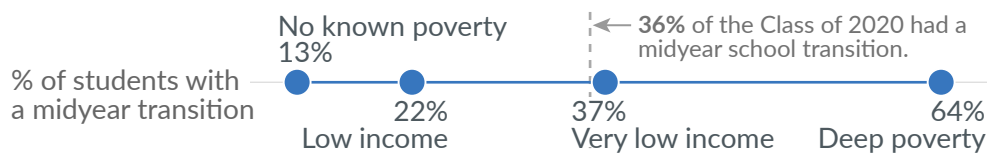
### What is a midyear school transition?

A midyear school transition is when a student changes schools at least once during an academic year. OCID's data does not indicate causes of a transition, which could range from a new work opportunity for the family to a foster care placement.

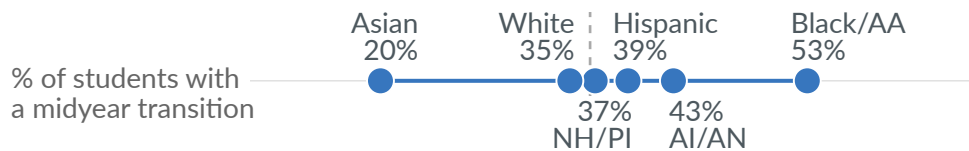
### Who experiences midyear school transitions?

In the Oregon Class of 2020, **36%** (over 11,000 students) ever changed schools midyear. Midyear school transitions were more common for students with certain characteristics, such as poverty.

A particularly disproportionate number of students who ever experienced deep poverty also had at least 1 midyear school transition (**64%** or 5,350 students).



Among race and ethnicity groups, midyear school transitions were most common for students identified as Black/African American (**53%**).



Students with disabilities also experienced midyear school transitions at a higher rate (**47%**) than peers without identified disabilities (33%).



Explore further

Previous OCID research on the Class of 2020 revealed substantial differences in 4-year graduation rates for students with midyear school transitions and other characteristics.

[View the Class of 2020 interactive visualizations.](#)

Definitions

**Deep poverty** is defined here as ever being enrolled in TANF.

**Very low income** is defined here as ever being enrolled in SNAP and never enrolled in TANF.

**Low income** is defined here as ever being enrolled in Medicaid/CHIP and never enrolled in TANF or SNAP.

**Disability** is defined here as ever having an Individualized Education Program (IEP).

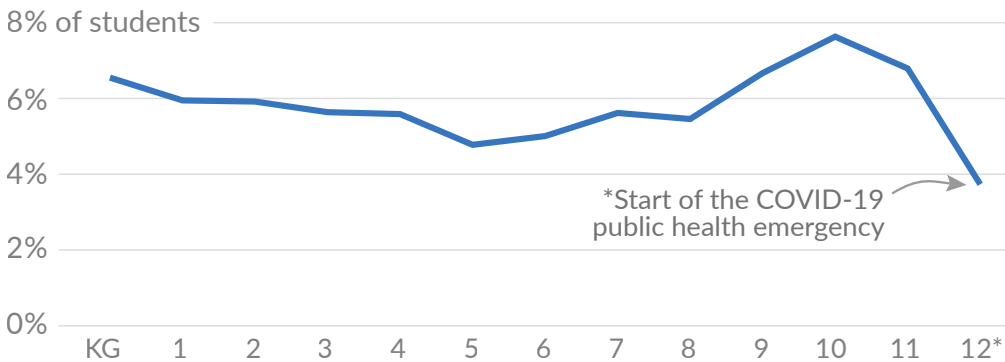
Learn about [OCID's race and ethnicity methodology](#).

More information on cohort and variable definitions for this analysis are available in the [methods summary](#).

## When do midyear school transitions occur? ○

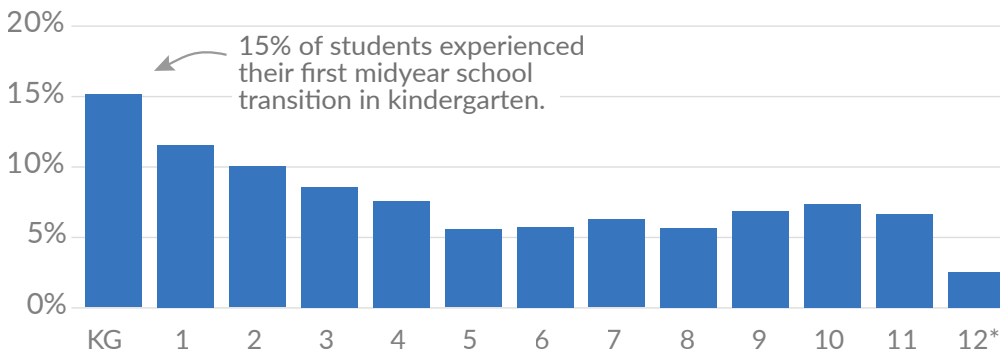
High schoolers were more likely to change schools midyear than students in elementary or middle school. In 9th, 10th, and 11th grades approximately 6 to 7% of all students changed schools midyear.

PERCENT OF MIDYEAR SCHOOL TRANSITIONS BY GRADE



Although midyear school transitions were a more common experience in high school, nearly two-thirds of students experienced their first midyear transition in elementary school.

FIRST MIDYEAR SCHOOL TRANSITION BY GRADE



### State Agency Resources

The Oregon Department of Education (ODE) uses a metric of student mobility, which includes experiences beyond changing schools midyear. Official ODE research on student mobility can be found on their [Accountability Measures](#) webpage and in a [2018 data brief](#).

### SCHOOL DISTRICT TRANSITIONS

Among students with a midyear transition, **75%** had a midyear transition between school districts, underscoring the complexity of students' transition experiences.

The 4-year graduation rate for students ever experiencing a midyear school transition was **64%**, 17 points lower than the overall Class of 2020 (81%).

## How does the frequency of midyear school transitions relate to graduation? ○

Nearly half of students with midyear school transitions experience them during 2 or more school years. Students with transitions in only a single school year graduate at a higher rate than their peers with multiple years of changing schools midyear.

### STUDENTS WITH MULTIPLE YEARS OF MIDYEAR TRANSITIONS HAD DECREASED 4-YEAR GRADUATION RATES

Total years with a midyear school transition	Number of students	% graduated in 4 years
0 years	19,390	91%
1 year	5,810	74%
2 years	2,620	61%
3 or more years	2,580	43%