The following is a summary of historical progress on opportunities for Chicago’s youth organized by 6 key milestones of youth development: Entering School Ready to Learn, Reading at Grade Level by Third Grade, Graduating from High School and Enrolling in College, Completing Post Secondary Education or Training, Successfully Entering the Workforce, and Keeping Kids On Track & Giving Them Second Chances. These 6 milestones correspond to the primary outcomes tracked in the Youth Opportunity Dashboard.

Please note that all charts display the most recent full year of data available city wide. Future annual reports will provide updated data as this data becomes available.

**MILESTONE 1**

**Entering School Ready To Learn**

All children should have a healthy start and enter school ready—cognitively, physically, socially, and emotionally.

* FRL: Students who are eligible for Free or Reduced Lunch. This is used as a proxy measure and a useful indicator for the relative numbers of youth in poverty.
MILESTONE 2
Meeting Benchmarks in Reading and Math

All children should be reading at grade level by age 8—the age at which reading to learn becomes essential. Math proficiency, particularly in 8th grade, is also a critical indicator of academic progress before entering high school.

Third Grade Reading Proficiency & Growth

Year 2019 2021 2022
Proficiency 42% 18% 17%
Growth 39% 39% 40%

Eighth Grade Math Proficiency & Growth

Year 2019 2021 2022
Proficiency 49% 49% 49%
Growth 24% 16% 15%

MILESTONE 3
Graduating from High School and Enrolling in College

All youth should receive a quality high school education and graduate with the skills and tools needed to advance to postsecondary education or training.

High School Graduation

Year 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021
Asian 94% 93% 92% 92% 92%
White 87% 80% 82% 82% 82%
Latino 82% 81% 81% 81% 82%
Chicago 80% 78% 79% 80% 82%
Black 76% 78% 79% 80% 82%

College Enrollment (BA and AA*)

Year 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021
Asian 82% 82% 82% 82% 82%
White 77% 77% 77% 77% 77%
Latino 60% 60% 60% 60% 60%
Chicago 64% 64% 64% 64% 64%
Black 57% 57% 57% 57% 57%

* Bachelor’s or Associates Degrees
MILESTONE 4
Completing Postsec. Education or Training
Everyone should have the option to attend postsecondary education and receive the education and training needed to obtain a livable-wage paying job.

* Bachelor’s or Associates Degrees

MILESTONE 5
Successfully Entering the Workforce
Anyone who wants a job should be able to get a job that allows them to support themselves and their families.
Keeping Kids On Track & Giving Them Second Chances

All should be safe from violent crime; and individuals without supportive environments should receive the education, training, and tools needed for a second chance.

* Due to the pandemic and remote learning, there is no school-level data available for expulsions, in-school suspensions (ISS), or out of school suspensions for the 2020–2021 school year.