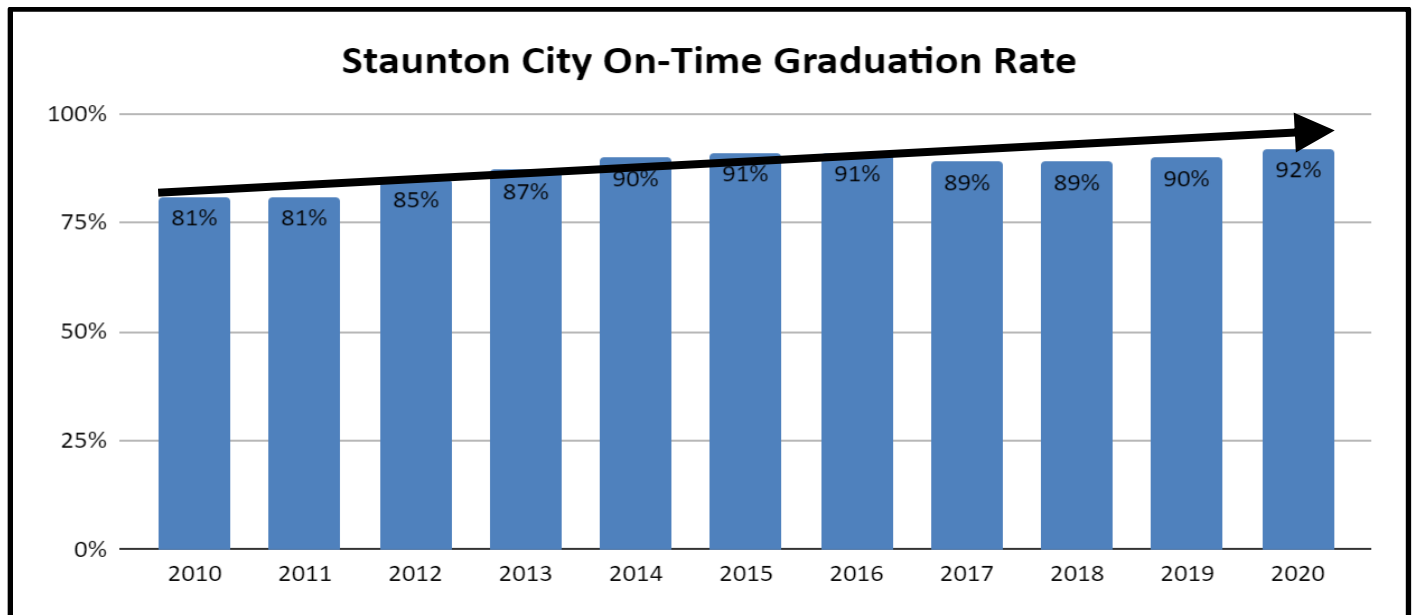


**September 30, 2020 – Staunton City Schools Maintains High Graduation Rate**

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**STAUNTON CITY SCHOOLS MAINTAINS HIGH GRADUATION RATE**

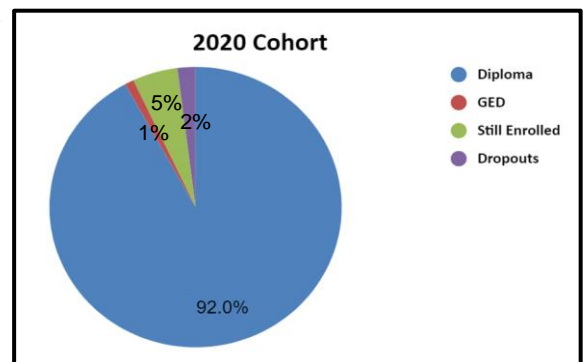
The percentage of students graduating on-time at Staunton High School has increased significantly over the past several years. The 2020 graduating cohort maintained a high benchmark for students graduating, as 92% of the 208 students who entered the ninth grade in the fall of 2016 earned a diploma within four years. This percentage is the highest rate to date, and 11 points higher than the on-time graduation rate ten years ago. The graduation rate demonstrates an equitable range among reporting groups: female (92%), male (91%), black (94%), white (92%), and economically disadvantaged (88%).



Only students earning a diploma are included in the calculations for on-time graduation. Students who earn a GED, remain enrolled in school, or drop out are not included in the calculation. Of the students included in the 2020 cohort:

- 92% earned a Virginia-recognized diploma
- 1% earned a GED
- 5% remain enrolled
- 2% dropped out

Over half of the diplomas issued by Staunton City Schools were Advanced Studies diplomas.



“Our 2020 graduates had a very different ending to their senior year, with the closing of schools in March 2020. Despite this setback, we have many reasons to be proud of our recent graduates. This group of graduates had the highest rate of graduation to date, and they are academically and socially prepared for the challenges they will face in college, career, and life,” states Executive Director of Instruction, Stephanie Haskins.